

The Journal

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50 cents (Tax included)

Voters to decide on AUSD bond measure

Phyllis Lyon

ALBANY — Voters will go to the polls next Tuesday to say yes or no to a \$31.6 million bond measure to bring Albany schools up to health, safety and seismic standards, rehabilitate old buildings and provide new classrooms for the growing school population.

A 30-member Facilities Study Committee did a hands-on assessment of school needs over the past seven years and passed their findings on to a Facilities Funding Committee who determined specific projects for the elementary, middle and high schools and the funding required.

The committee's final recommendations are now in the hands of the School Board. If the measure passes — it requires approval by two-thirds of the voters — the board will authorize sale of the first bond issue, currently estimated at \$1 million, to begin work on smaller projects this summer, according to supporters.

Projects resulting in major configuration of buildings require review by state architects.

The bonds, all with a 25-year maturity, will be sold over an 18-year period and be paid off in 43 years. The required maximum annual sale is an estimated \$5 million or 2 percent of the city's total assessed property evaluation.

Homeowners will pay the school based on the assessed value of their property at a rate determined by the amount of bonds issued, though the schedule of bond sales tentative as yet, school officials estimate the rate at 3.42 cents per \$100 assessed value after issuance of the first bond series and 12.88 cents in 2011/12.

The highest rate is estimated at 13 cents in 1999/00 and the 18-year average rate at 8.8 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation.

Sixty percent of Albany's 4,000 homes are assessed at \$100,000 or less, 287 of those at \$25,000 or less. A home assessed at \$50,000 will pay an average of \$44 per year over the 43 years. The same homeowner will pay \$17 after the first bond sale, \$115 during at the peak and \$64 after the last series of bonds are sold, if estimates are correct.

"We think it's a terrible wrong," said freshman Crystal Lewis, who enjoys walking off campus with her friends to eat and socialize — and to escape any difficult situations.

"We think it's going to mean more violence, with everyone crowded in, packed in together. There'll be more arguments with everybody together. The way things are now, if things get to be a problem, you can just walk away."

The expectation of more violence seems to be a common one among students. El Cerrito has not had a history of violence; they hope that doesn't change with the new policy meant to protect students from outsiders.

"There hasn't been any violence, but

when the right developer comes forward, according to Blank and owner Ralph Hill. The site on Brighton Avenue near the BART tracks is zoned for a maximum of 156 units.

"The Hill people and I will take time to find a developer with extensive experience in urban housing," Blank said.

"We now have a clean bill of health," said Realtor Jerome Blank, agent for the Hill property. "We hope to go to market in the very near future." The new asking price will probably not be the same as in 1991, according to Blank.

A planned community of residential units will be built on the site



El Cerrito High student Crystal Lewis is one of many who will miss her lunchtime freedom

El Cerrito High students lose lunchtime freedom next week

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — It's a familiar sight at lunchtime — small groups of students lined up at the doors of 7-Eleven and other local food outlets during the high school lunch hour. It's been going on for years.

But all that's going to end next Wednesday. The ECHS campus will institute a closed campus policy during the noon hour after years of an open campus policy.

The decision was not the school's to make. After shootings at Richmond High School and Pinole Valley High some months ago, Superintendent Herb Cole decided that the only way to protect students all over the district was to institute a district-wide closed campus policy. The board of education concurred, though many students do not.

"We think it's a terrible wrong," said freshman Crystal Lewis, who enjoys walking off campus with her friends to eat and socialize — and to escape any difficult situations.

"We think it's going to mean more violence, with everyone crowded in, packed in together. There'll be more arguments with everybody together. The way things are now, if things get to be a problem, you can just walk away."

The expectation of more violence seems to be a common one among students. El Cerrito has not had a history of violence; they hope that doesn't change with the new policy meant to protect students from outsiders.

"There hasn't been any violence, but

it's going to mean more violence, more fights," said one. Another comment: "Especially when it's too hot, everybody's going to get pretty grouchy."

There are more practical concerns as well: Lewis and her friends think lunch will be almost over by the time they get through crowded lunch lines. And Hashina Dixon doesn't understand why all this has to happen just as she's made it up to high school.

But older students may feel the other side of the issue — the removal of long-held freedoms just as they're almost old enough to be out on their own anyway.

Like some students already in established groups that meet at lunchtime — for music, forensics or drama, Bridget Watson does not often leave campus, so it's not a particular problem for her personally. She just thinks it's a terribly impractical idea.

Watson seems more concerned about another policy instituted by Principal Paul

Daniels several weeks ago in connection with the upcoming closure. "Hall sweeps" have begun, with adult officials looking for tardy students. And to ensure no tardiness after the lunch period, classroom doors are locked immediately when the bell rings.

For the first 15 minutes of class, no one can be out in the halls for any reason.

One of those first days, Watson and a friend were late for class — they had been at a drama rehearsal and were on the stairs right next to the classroom when the bell rang. They saw the door being locked.

"We don't want to get the teacher in trouble, but she did let us in when we knocked," Watson said. Her friend had started talking to the teacher about why students were being deprived of their education for the time it would take to go to the cafeteria for a detention slip.

For Watson, the whole situation, from closure to lockouts, "seems kind of silly.

"It all seems like this kind of higher

See CLOSED, page 12

Vote scheduled on RUSD surplus property

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — Assembly Bill 535, the 1993 version of Assemblyman Tom Bates' plan to allow sale revenues of surplus school properties to be applied to the school district's debts, will come up for a vote in the Assembly Education committee next Wednesday afternoon at 1:30 p.m.

Rachel Richmon, spokesperson for Bates, said Tuesday that Bates had asked

for some rule waivers to help the bill move as quickly as possible through the legislative process.

Since it is an urgency bill, she said, it would go into effect immediately once it has passed through the legislature and been signed by the governor.

At that time, negotiations can begin for the sale of 16 properties, including a parcel in Kensington that many residents would like to purchase as open space for the town.

See SIGNS, page 12

Planned residential development likely for lumberyard site

By Phyllis Lyon

ALBANY — One of the city's largest single pieces of developable land will soon go back on the market following an 18-month hiatus.

Up for sale in 1991 for \$3.9 million, the Hill Lumber Company took time out to remove underground oil tanks discovered on the four-and-a-half acre site on Brighton Avenue.

"We now have a clean bill of health," said Realtor Jerome Blank, agent for the Hill property. "We hope to go to market in the very near future." The new asking price will probably not be the same as in 1991, according to Blank.

A planned community of residential units will be built on the site

when the right developer comes forward, according to Blank and owner Ralph Hill. The site on Brighton Avenue near the BART tracks is zoned for a maximum of 156 units.

"The Hill people and I will take time to find a developer with extensive experience in urban housing," Blank said.

"We intend to build beautiful houses that fit into the neighborhood, not barracks."

The developer will also need to be able to find "innovative ways to include low-income housing" in the project, Blank said.

State law requires the city to meet an area-wide share of very low, low and moderate income housing in a formula determined

by the Association of Bay Area Governments.

With "inclusionary" requirements for the Hill property set at 15 percent of the units built, higher priced homes may need to balance out others which will have to be sold at less than the cost to build them.

In December a proposal by Councilmember Robert Good to increase the share of the city's low-income housing requirements for "housing projects of ten or more units" received no support from other council members.

Blank said negotiations continue between Hill Lumber and the city to exchange land, allowing the city to expand the corporation yard and move it near to the

BART tracks.

At present the corporation yard is next to Cougar Field and, if not moved, would be in the middle of any new residential development.

Ralph Hill recalled when a person could look south from the Hill Lumber Company and see nothing but green fields all the way to Solano Avenue.

"And now it's time for me to take it easy and smell the flowers," he said.

The Hill Lumber Company began in 1905 when Hill's father, Albert, was a salesman for the Stege Lumber Company in Richmond.

When Stege went bankrupt, Albert Hill paid off the company's debts and, in 1922, moved the company to Albany.



Former site of Hill Lumber will again be up for sale

Cable show airs election issue debate

Kosel hosts cable show

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — Viewers of "Cross Talk," a local issues program hosted by El Cerrito city council member Cathie Kosel, can hear a discussion tonight next week's special election in El Cerrito.

Kosel invited two members of the Friends of El Cerrito, Gina Brusatori and Bill Cummerford, to discuss the March 2 ballot members on the program which airs tonight and Sunday on government-access Channel 8.

Brusatori and Cummerford addressed each of the four measures.

Measure H is a special tax for fire services; it will cost single family homeowners \$57 for four years.

The money is designated to hire two firefighters, to fund a new equipment fund that will enable the department to purchase a new replacement fire engine in the next four years, and to continue and increase the fire hazard reduction effort started last summer.

In justifying the need for the tax, Cummerford said that a major firestorm started on the hill would be virtually impossible to stop. Hazard abatements, he said, would include the widening and improvement of fire roads, as well as the removal of fuel load, including hazardous brush like Scotch broom, poison oak, dead leaves and needles.

But Brusatori added that fire was not the only issue.

Two-thirds of the department's calls are actually made in response to medical emergencies, she said. Rather than being dependent on overtime workers, she said, the hiring of two firefighters (to bring the personnel total up to prior levels), would mean sending "fresh and alert firefighters to calls."

According to Cummerford, the department made

See CROSS TALK, page 12

Sign vandalism condemned by citizen group

By Dawn Frasier

The El Cerrito Citizens' Alliance has denied any involvement in the recent vandalism of political signs around town which support a Yes vote on four March 2 ballot measures.

While the group has written arguments against three of the measures — an argument against a storm drain tax was retracted — coordinator Beverly Gent said that if the act was a political one and not just teenage vandalism, it was a cowardly one.

The group issued an official statement concerning the Feb. 14 incident following an article in last week's Journal. The statement's purpose, said Gent, is to show support for the Friends of El Cerrito, who support the measures, as fellow El Cerritos.

"The El Cerrito Citizens' Alliance joins with the Friends of El Cerrito and all proponents of the March 2nd tax measures in expressing its sorrow and outrage over the defacement of political signs posted throughout El Cerrito," the statement reads.

"We agree that such vandalism is illegal, cowardly, unacceptable and worthy of prosecution. We sincerely hope the culprit(s) guilty of such action will be apprehended and punished."

See SIGNS, page 12

Letters to the Editor

Pass Measure A

Editor: One of the many reasons that families move to Albany is because of our fine schools. On Tuesday, March 2, Albany voters will be asked to vote on Measure A. As a longtime Albany resident, I will be voting Yes for Measure A. I urge all concerned voters to get out and vote Yes for Measure A so that our children can remain competitive in the 1990s and beyond.

Bruce Barrows

Vote against vandals

Editor: The sign in front of our house was used to accompany an article about the measures on the ballot in the Feb. 11 edition of the Journal. Since your article was published, my sign and many more in El Cerrito were defaced (sometime over the weekend).

It is a sad day for El Cerrito politics when those opposing the measures have to resort to such mean spirited actions. We urge our fellow citizens to vote Yes on Measures H,J,K, and L. In so doing they will send a loud message to those who are in opposition that their tactics didn't work.

Kathleen and Kenneth Berner

Two-thirds majority needed

Editor: On March 2 the voters of Albany will have an opportunity to express their appreciation for our fine schools in a way that truly counts. The bond issue before us will allow the district to modernize and seismically strengthen the oldest buildings in the district and to construct new classrooms to serve our growing families.

I have little doubt that more than a majority of our voters support the schools and will vote for the bonds. However, whether we like it or not, a supermajority of 66.67 percent approval is required. Each vote of approval only counts for 2/3 of a vote and each No vote needs two Yeses to cancel it out. It is imperative that every eligible voter who recognizes the importance of education and schools vote — and vote Yes! Because, remember, the other voter's vote may be twice as strong as yours!

Douglas Donaldson

Time for improvements

Editor: A school that can offer a stimulating physical and academic environment can create a nurturing setting for a young person to gain knowledge and self esteem, two significant attributes to a productive and successful life.

I was fortunate enough to attend and complete a rewarding experience through our Albany school system, but that occurred over 26 years ago. Age of the school structures and dramatic leaps in technology, without available structures to acquire this needed technology and appropriate physical improvements, have compromised the ability of the system to produce optimum results for our youths.

On March 2 we have the option of committing to create the type of academic environments needed for our young people or allowing further erosion of existing facilities. The school-age population of Albany has been steadily increasing. We must ensure that the young people residing in this community have the best possible advantage in acquiring skills and abilities to effectively make decisions throughout their life.

Please vote Yes on Measure A and offer a bright future for our young residents.

Larry Murdo

We all should vote

Editor: On March 2 Albany folks have an opportunity to reinforce the tradition of Albany as a family town devoted to giving our children the best possible education.

The pioneer of refugees from the 1906 S.F. earthquake wasted little time in establishing a school in Miller's Barn. Since that time the citizens have been careful to maintain a high standard for the schools. However the local control of school funds was shifted to Sacramento by Prop. 13 and a

questionable lottery.

Fortunately we still have the power to provide the necessary funds to upgrade old buildings and provide modern equipment for our schools. However success requires a two-thirds favorable vote. Each one of us has a responsibility to make certain that enough favorable votes are cast to maintain our very fine school system.

Catherine J. Webb

School environment counts

Editor:

Writing a letter to the editor does not come under the heading of "fun things to do today at our house," but the topic is important enough to warrant the effort. The school bond issue which is on the ballot of Tuesday, March 2, is so critical to Albany's future that we feel it needs to be addressed. If you drive around town, you can't help but notice all the painting, roofing, and remodeling going on in so many of our homes. It is being done by people who are choosing to fix up rather than move out to other areas, and our school system here plays a big part in their decision so we improve our homes for our children to have a safe, warm place to live should we ask less for their time spent at school? We believe the time spent there is so important in their lives that the environment should be an extension of their homes.

We are therefore supporting the bond issue which will allow necessary repairs, upgrading and expansion to be done to accommodate our ever-increasing number of students. Sure it's expensive, but the quality of education in our schools has a direct bearing on the value of our property; and an investment in our children's future cannot be measured in dollars and cents. Future residents of this city will be grateful that we had the foresight to see to it that our school buildings were kept up and maintained so that the next generations will be as proud to live in Albany as we are.

John and Agnes Mullarkey

LWV says Yes

Editor:

The League of Women Voters Richmond Area supports the four March 2 El Cerrito ballot measures. League positions on which this support is based are:

- 1) Government should have adequate financing to carry out its responsibilities.
- 2) Property taxes should be used primarily for those services directly related to property, such as police and fire protection and sewerage.
- 3) There should be effective citizen participation in establishing priorities for services provided by government agencies. The four measures are designed to cover only the most basic needs revealed in a two-year study by committees of El Cerrito citizens. The measures will help ensure property values in the city, and prevent the drain of law suits over collapsing storm drains. The city has no outstanding bonded indebtedness.

We urge a Yes vote on these measures on March 2.

Dorothy McMichael

Fine education tradition

Editor:

On Tuesday, March 2, Albany voters will be asked to vote for a series of general obligation bonds for repairs and improvements to the city's school buildings. The bonds will be issued over a period of 18 years.

Voters should know that since 1985 a series of citizens committees have studied school facilities. In 1991-92 the Facilities Funding Committee reviewed those studies and developed several alternatives for addressing safety problems, inadequate facilities, and the need for more classroom space. The Facilities Funding Committee then recommended to the School Board that a bond election be held.

Once the bonds are passed the School Board will continue the planning process to finalize the details of the projects and the priorities for construction. We will seek more input from citizens, staff, students, and building professionals. Our aim will be to meet the current and future needs of the District in the most cost effective way.

None of us enjoys asking for or paying higher taxes. But we simply must make this investment in our schools now. Over the long term it will cost us a

See LETTERS, page 11

ALAS...
TO BE OR NOT
TO BE... THAT IS THE
QUESTION ALL RIGHT.
WHETHER 'TIS NOBLER (2)...
IN THE MIND TO SUFFER THE
SLINGS... AND... THE
ARROWS OF
OUTRAGEOUS FORTUNE... OR TO
... OH THE HECK
WITH IT...

REQUIEM.

Police Reports

Cars burgled after surrounding yard fence

By Dawn Frasier

made to enter a third vehicle.

• An unsuccessful residential burglary attempt was reported in the 600 block of Jackson Street on Feb. 18. The bottom of the door was pried open; evidently, the victim's dogs frightened the burglar away.

• An Albany Middle School student reported being followed by a man in a car on Feb. 19, while she was walking in the area of Washington and Curtis.

• An Albany juvenile was arrested on Feb. 21 for a no-bail warrant issued by the Alameda County Sheriff's Office.

• The Albany Fire Department was called to put out a vehicle fire at Buchanan and Cleveland at about 10:37 p.m. on Feb. 21.

• Two vehicles were reported stolen: a 1987 Buick Century from the 1300 block of Marin (night of Feb. 16) and a 1985 Chevrolet S10 pickup from Golden Gate Fields (afternoon of Feb. 19).

• Someone poured paint thinner on the trunk lid of a vehicle parked in the 1100 block of Marin Avenue. The incident was reported on Feb. 20.

• A Berkeley man was arrested after parking his vehicle in a red zone in the 1000 block of Marin Avenue on the afternoon of Feb. 14. A warrant had been issued on the vehicle by the Oakland PD.

An Emeryville woman, stopped for a minor vehicle code violation was found to have an outstanding Berkeley PD warrant; a driver arrested by the UCPD at Castro and San Pablo Avenue was booked at the Albany PD after it was found

had outstanding warrants for both the Berkeley and Oakland police departments.

A Berkeley man was stopped a.m. on Feb. 16. An alarm sounded at Alex's Cafe, and he was in a vehicle thought to be involved. The man was found to have an outstanding \$5,000 warrant from Berkeley PD and a \$9,000 warrant from the UCPD.

• A man was arrested after his vehicle was seen in an Albany residence at 2:30 p.m. from the UCPD.

• Non-injury traffic collisions were reported on: Solano and Pablo (El Cerrito/Albany driver Feb. 19; Hercules driver/pedestrian on Feb. 16); at Kain and Davis (two El Cerrito drivers on Feb. 16); and Marin at Peralta (Berkeley Richmond drivers, Feb. 16).

Three drivers — from Emeryville, Alameda and Oakland — were involved in a collision at San Pablo Avenue south of Washington 15.

• A tan Ford was seen leaving hit-and-run accident at San Pablo and Solano on the afternoon of Feb. 15.

• Recycling thefts were reported in the 800 block of Stannard, 1000 block of Peralta, and the 1000 block of Ventura. A Pinole man arrested in connection with Stannard theft; another arrested made when the person stopped Peralta was found to have an outstanding BART PD warrant.

• Two arrests were made driving under the influence.

• Five vehicles were unlocked request; one vehicle had a bullet

Afternoon robbery attempt fails to yield any cash

By Dawn Frasier

bushes after an attempted pedestrian stop. They were detained at Lincoln Avenue and Kearny Street at about 6 a.m. on Feb. 9.

• Three vehicles were reported stolen: a 1990 Nissan Maxima from the 6600 block of Hagen Boulevard on Feb. 10, a 1977 Toyota Corolla from the 5200 block of Cypress Avenue on Feb. 11, and a 1987 Honda Prelude from the 300 block of Roman Avenue during the night of Feb. 6. All three vehicles were recovered.

• There were several property attempts from vehicles reported.

During the night of Feb. 5, someone took license plates from a car in the 2700 block of Del Monte Avenue.

On Feb. 7, three vehicles were reported burglarized. Someone took sunglasses, coins and a gas card from a car in the 7200 block of Blake Street. In the 1700 block of Walnut Avenue, the burglar attempted to remove the stereo but

could not.

The would-be thief rifled the seat of a vehicle parked in the block of Lexington Avenue.

Miscellaneous property was taken from a car parked in a lot in the 10900 block of San Pablo Avenue during the night of Feb. 9. That night, \$3 worth of communion wafers were taken from a car in the 1000 block of Harper Street. The thief used a slim jim to enter the vehicle.

• Robbery suspects were arrested on Wall Street by the Berkeley police after a pursuit on the afternoon of Feb. 11.

• Two Vallejo men were arrested for possession of burglary tools after they were stopped for a welfare code violation at San Pablo and Moeser at 3:30 a.m. on Feb. 12.

• Shoplifters were arrested at Emporium (a Richmond woman), Long's (a Berkeley woman), Long's (a Berkeley man, a Richmond woman) and Woolworth's (a San Francisco woman).

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Contra Costa County Supervisor Sunne McPeak said that if President Clinton wants to cut government spending, he should let ordinary citizens decide where some of their tax dollars should go.

McPeak said she is urging Clinton, as well as Gov. Pete Wilson, to allow taxpayers to designate part of their income taxes to support local programs that are addressing the "friction loss" that results from sending money directly to Washington, D.C., or Sacramento.

Her proposal would give a tax credit to residents for contributing to a limited number of public-private partnership programs deemed promising by each county Board of Supervisors.

The plan would not only allow citizens to be directly involved in governing themselves, but would also avoid what McPeak called the "friction loss" that results from sending money directly to Washington, D.C., or Sacramento.

McPeak said Clinton would "more bang for the buck" by encouraging local governments to develop working relationships between businesses, unions, churches, clubs and other private organizations to solve problems that are the responsibility of the public.

The Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors endorsed McPeak's proposal two weeks ago.

New police policy vetoes rescuing keys for forgetful

By Dawn Frasleur

EL CERRITO — It doesn't always pay to be a Good Samaritan — the nationwide prevalence of lawsuits associated with helping acts has hit El Cerrito. As a result, the El Cerrito PD began a new policy last month; officers will no longer help you out if you lock your keys in your car.

The cause for the change, after many years of helping with lockouts, is the new design of cars, said Police Chief Dan Givens.

"The newer cars are much more difficult," he said.

"The built-in anti-theft devices can be damaged (when the person attempting to unlock the vehicle) has no proper equipment or training."

Givens added that even tow truck operators are not always willing to attempt entry into a locked vehicle (as happened when he locked his own keys in his car recently) and that a locksmith will not always take responsibility for a car someone else has tried to open.

"It's a liability issue," he said.

"We've had people submit claims to the city even after we told them we might cause some damage to the lock."

Givens said officers will still help out in an emergency situation, such as when a small child or pet is locked inside the vehicle.

Though many other cities have the same policy, the Albany PD is one neighbor that will still make an attempt to help you out if your car is within those city limits.

El Cerrito Newsline

By Eileen Duffy

On Tuesday, March 2, voters in El Cerrito will decide if El Cerrito should have a new hillside fire station. When the city attorney wrote his impartial analysis of this ballot measure, it was unclear where the fire station should be located.

Discussions taking place among west Contra Costa County fire chiefs about consolidating fire services prompted some concern that the hillside fire station should be located either further north or south on Arlington Boulevard.

The hillside station location issue has led to a number of questions that may be making it more difficult for you to make a decision on how to vote on Measure K. With help from Fire Chief Steve Cutright, I will make an attempt to clear up some of the confusion by answering some of the questions we have been hearing the past few weeks.

Q: If fire service consolidation takes place, do we need to replace the Arlington Fire Station? Couldn't the Kensington station provide protection for El Cerrito residents?

A: Yes, the Arlington station needs to be replaced, and no, the Kensington Station could not adequately serve El Cerrito residents.

Currently, the City of El Cerrito has a joint response agreement with the City of Richmond and the West Contra Costa and Kensington fire districts. Fire protection and prevention services have been consolidated already. The need for a fire station on Arlington Boulevard in El Cerrito would not change. Further consolidation may produce some administrative cost savings only.

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"We've had people submit claims to the city even after we told them we might cause some damage to the lock."

Givens said officers will still help out in an emergency situation, such as when a small child or pet is locked inside the vehicle.

Though many other cities have the same policy, the Albany PD is one neighbor that will still make an attempt to help you out if your car is within those city limits.



The Kensington Station has a serious structural problem due to its location on the Hayward Fault. It, too, should be replaced in the near future. Any station this far south on Arlington Boulevard would not be able to respond quickly enough to an emergency on the northern end of El Cerrito and certainly not to East Richmond Heights, an area covered by the joint response agreement.

Q: If the Kensington Fire Station closes, shouldn't the hillside fire station be moved further south on Arlington Boulevard?

A: No. At one time, this idea was given consideration even to the point where two sites were considered (i.e., Arlington Park and the corner of Arlington Boulevard and Club View Drive).

The fire chiefs have held many discussions on the location of all the stations in the area, and they have decided the present location of the hillside fire station is the best site. Moving south to either the Park or Club View locations would slow the response to homes in the Barrett Avenue area in El Cerrito and to East Richmond Heights to an unacceptable level.

In addition, both the Park and Club View sites are located directly on the Hayward Fault. The Arlington Fire Station is near the fault, but not directly on it. Building directly on an earthquake fault is possible but is very expensive.

Q: If the Hayward Fault is such a problem, why not build the station somewhere else?

A: There are only two main streets — arterials — in El Cerrito that run from our northern border to our southern border: San Pablo Avenue and Arlington Boulevard. It is critical to have stations on both arterials. It takes too long for heavy fire trucks to go uphill from San Pablo Avenue to respond to emergencies in the hill areas. Arlington Boulevard is the only logical location for a hillside station.

I hope this information helps you to make an informed decision about Measure K.

Please be sure to vote on March 2!

Local finches succumb to parasites

Two Bay Area wildlife rehabilitation centers are concerned about diseases that are killing dozens of small yellow-streaked finches, birds that frequent backyard bird feeders.

A spokeswoman for the Lindsay Museum in Walnut Creek says that thousands of the pine siskins have died in Oregon, Washington and Vancouver, B.C. — and as far south as the San Francisco Bay area.

She said some of the healthier birds that have been brought to the museum have been sent to veterinarians for diagnosis. Mary Kmaka, director of animal care at the California Wildlife Center in San Rafael, said 15 to 20 finches were brought there during the month of January.

She said all of them tested positive for a protozoa parasite that causes trichomoniasis, which is contagious among birds but can be successfully treated if diagnosed early. The disease is most common in pigeons and doves.

In addition, Kmaka said scientists have found that a high percentage of finches that died in Vancouver and Washington state tested positive for salmonella.

She said the two diseases fluctuate in wildlife populations and are not uncommon.

Kmaka said one possible reason for the Bay area finch deaths caused by trichomoniasis could be recent rains that soaked bird seed placed in feeders, which get dirty when they are wet.

She said one way to help prevent the spread of the disease is to clean out bird feeders after a rainfall.

"If you see a bird that looks lethargic or fluffed up or can't fly, bring it to a local wildlife center," Kmaka said, adding that people should wash their hands after handling the sick finches.

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"If you see a bird that looks lethargic or fluffed up or can't fly, bring it to a local wildlife center," Kmaka said, adding that people should wash their hands after handling the sick finches.

Library room named for major benefactor

By Phyllis Lyon

ALBANY — To honor a major benefactor of the Albany Library, the City Council last week approved naming a program area of the new library the Edith Stone Room. Sone, who died in 1984 at 95, bequeathed her estate estimated at \$150,000 to the library, the largest gift in the history of the Alameda County Library.

"Many people feel the Library/Community Center project wouldn't have gotten off the ground without Edith Stone's contribution," said Recreation and Community Services director Bill Jones.

Initially recommended by the Friends of the Albany Library last fall, designation of the room was "enthusiastically endorsed" by the Park and Recreation Commission, Jones said. That a room be named after her was not a condition of Stone's will, he said.

"The bequest coalesced people's enthusiasm to support building the new library," said Albany head librarian Ronnie Davis. "It provided the seed money to get the project started." The Edith Stone Room will be the site of class visits, story hours and senior programs, she said.

Initial planning funded by the Stone inheritance led to receipt of a \$2.6 million state library construction grant and formation of the Albany Center Builders, a citizens group who subsequently exceeded their \$100,000 fundraising goal.

"I remember vividly Mrs. Stone coming into the library about every day in her camel coat and floppy hat," David said. "We were on her walking tour route. It was a complete surprise, a very touching gift."

Born in 1888 in Boston, Edith Stone lived in Albany in the 20's. She moved east to Connecticut with her husband, William, who died in 1931. The Stones had no

children. Stone returned to her home on Pomona Avenue in the 60s and worked as office manager for a San Francisco publishing house until she was in her 80s.

An avid reader and bookshelf browser, Stone took a daily five-mile walk around town with the Albany Library on an itinerary that often included Walker's Pie Shop, Ortman's for ice cream and extended to the North Berkeley branch of that city's library.

After a six-week confinement resulting from a dog bite curtailed her outdoor peregrinations, Michael and Marianne Halderman and other Pomona neighbors came to Stone's aid, arranging for delivery of meals on wheels — Stone kept no cooking facilities — and visits by UC students.

During Stone's final year in a rest home, Michael Halderman and neighbor Jane Quafout became conservators of Stone's affairs, carrying out her wish to form the Albany Library Trust Fund which left her entire estate, including the proceeds of the sale of her Pomona house, a coin collection, jewelry, silver, savings bonds, photographs and even her walking coat to benefit the local branch library.

"She once said she learned to read at a young age from her mother and wanted to help others learn to read young," Halderman said. A constant reader throughout her life, Stone in her eighties turned from the history, economics and serious stuff of her youth to lighter fare, best sellers and mysteries, according to Halderman.

Halderman said that, although eyesight cut down on her favorite pastime at 95, Stone remained sharp on most days to the end.

In 1986 Opal Staniek, inspired many believe by Stone's generosity, bequeathed her house and land on Talbot Avenue to the city of Albany stipulating it be used as a children's playground. The Staniek Tot Lot has since become a favored place for neighborhood kids.

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School Notes

Homework lessons for parents

By Julie Winkelstein

My attitude toward homework has changed greatly in the 12 years since my first child entered Albany schools. The change has been gradual, and I was shocked to realize this week that my attitude has completely reversed.

When my children are home they always seem to find some way to occupy themselves. If they don't, we do. By the time pets are cared for, musical instruments practiced, chores completed, and small amount of free time thrown in, there's not much time left over.

That's why I've always resented homework. It takes my children away from family life. And to me, family life is their life.

But because of homework, for years I've felt like the underboss of an organization that communicates only through mimeographed paper. I've rumbled through school bags and backpacks, looking for some sign of what assignments needs to be done. I've encouraged, reminded, ordered and cajoled children through hundreds of hours of homework. I've even sat down and done it myself.

All along, I've resented it.

Repeatedly I've raged, "They have my children for six hours a day. Isn't that enough? Why can't they teach them when they have them, and leave us alone?"

But this week I suddenly understood something. I understood that my children's homework is their work. Going to school is their job and doing work, both at home and at school, is part of that job.

When my seventh-grader brings home an assignment, and works until midnight, she does it because she wants to do the best work she can. She takes it seriously when someone asks her to do something. She thinks that means they want her best — just as our jobs should demand the best of us.

This revelation is the end of a story that really started with another moral.

At the beginning of this school year, my 12-year-old was unhappy in school. She spent hours and hours on her homework, and she was miserable the whole time. It was a rough start.

I felt frustrated by her misery and her perfectionism. Hours would pass each evening, and she would sit, hunched over drawings or working at the word processor, sometimes for six or seven hours.

It didn't make sense to me. How could a seventh-grader need so much homework? Worried and angry, I tried to send her to bed. She would cry, I would yell. It was a nightmare.

I talked to the teacher about homework, hoping maybe she could cut back.

Why was there so much? I wanted to know. Then I had the first glimmer of my revelation. Some parents have complained there was too little homework, she said.

I didn't know what to say.

My next visit was to the vice principal. He listened patiently, and even took notes. "My daughter is a perfectionist," I told him. I described our long nights and her unhappiness. His response was the second bit of illumination.

"She needs to set priorities,"

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he explained. "Some assignments are more important than others. To exist in the real world, she's going to have to learn what's important and what's not."

I thought about what this meant. "You mean lighten up? Don't take all the work so seriously? Just do the minimum on some things, so she'll have time for others? Doesn't that seem a little odd to you, taking a student who wants to do everything well, and teaching them to do some things less well?"

"Well, that's the way the real world is. Some things just don't need the thoroughness she gives them. There just isn't time to do everything perfectly."

That advice, however, was not for us. As a parent, you can't change your child; all you can do is support.

That's what I've learned through this.

But when I came away from that meeting, I felt defensive and angry.

I wondered why my child had to be so conscientious. What was wrong with her? Had I made her this way?

The struggle went on until my daughter was transferred to another seventh-grade class. We had been assured by her friend that there was hardly any homework. And for her friend, that was true. But not for my daughter.

The change was good for her and she was happier in school. But the homework was the same. Because my daughter is the same.

I'm the one who's changed. I stopped worrying about whether she should be different. I'm just proud she's the ways she is. I know when a teacher gives her an assignment, she will work on it until it fits her high standards. She may not like doing it, but she'll do it.

When she comes to me at midnight and hands me five beautifully typed pages, I see the pride in her exhausted face.

Her motto is if she has to do it, she's going to do it well. And I can only hope the teachers she has will ask her to do things that are worth doing well. If they do, and she does, I'm all for it.

After all, it's her job.

Health service worker talks on insurance

By Julie Freestone

A local health expert who has studied Canada's health care says a "single payer" approach is the answer to reforming the United States' out-of-control system.

Margot Smith, a social scientist who works for the California Department of Health Services in Berkeley, has studied Canada's single payer system, interviewing hundreds of people about that system, which cuts out the insurance companies.

"There's a lot of discussion about the single payer system," Smith says. "It's coming from the grassroots."

For starters, Smith says cutting out the insurance companies and vesting the responsibility for processing health care claims in the government would have a significant impact on bringing down the administrative cost of care, which she says is 28 percent of the total ticket for health care.

As to whether the government can function efficiently enough to really make a difference, Smith points out many government agencies, including the Social Security Administration, the Post Office and the Veterans Administration, had periods when they were well-run and effective while big private corporations like IBM and the telephone company are proving to be inefficient.

In examining the way the single payer approach works in Canada, Smith talked with patients and providers, making a video of the interviews.

What she and her husband Robert

Purdy, who worked on the project with her, found was that most physicians in Canada were in private practice. Patients could select any doctor to visit, with the billing going straight to the government.

"It would be a system very much like the one we have except there would be a single payer," she says, contrasting that to the current U.S. approach where thousands of different insurance companies, each with their own billing form, are involved.

Financing for the Canadian system comes from taxes, but the cost to individual tax payers is only \$50 per month for a family and \$37 for an individual.

Everyone has access to care, although Smith concedes some people complain their taxes for health care are too high.

By comparison, Smith says 37 million Americans have no health insurance coverage. With 14 percent of the gross national product going for health care, she points out the cost of care is still rising and more and more seniors are having to pay for their expenses out-of-pocket because their insurance doesn't cover their needs.

Many Americans go without such things as immunizations for children and prenatal care for pregnant women.

In a speech last week at UC-Berkeley, economist Laura Tyson, newly appointed chair of the President's Council of Economic Advisers, issued a warning about those rising costs and the need for restructuring the system.

"In the second part of this decade it will be critical to put a

health care reform package together," said Tyson.

"If you listened to the president, you could tell his great passion about how he wants to define this administration, to get control of the health care issue."

Indeed, Clinton, in his state of the union address, warned that unless something is done about capping health care costs, half of the country's budget will eventually be spent for that purpose. He said freeing up dollars now spent on health care would have a major impact on making billions of dollars available to invest in the country's future.

But before the single payer approach can be sold in Washington, it will be necessary to beat off the approach Clinton seems to be advocating called managed care, which is aimed at controlling costs through such measures as buying pharmaceuticals in bulk and controlling which providers are used.

Smith says those plans won't work in rural communities which are too small for managed care

approaches to have an impact in inner cities, where patients distrust the approved providers.

In some areas of California, agencies that traditionally care for the poor were bypassed in favor of other groups that had no experience in serving them.

To push the single payer system, Smith has given the video she and her husband made to Clinton's team, but has heard nothing about their reactions.

Although she admits she can't predict what will happen, Smith says, "I'm very hopeful President Clinton (who is overseeing a force looking at health reform) will see the light. They're starting to look at the numbers on managed care and see they're keeping insurance companies, the dimming going."

A rally and town meeting will advocate for the single payer approach and to educate the community about what it involves, scheduled for tomorrow and Saturday.

'Japan trip' on Senior Center agenda

The Albany Senior Center has planned a trip — "Japan In A Day" — for Thursday, April 1.

The tour will include a visit to Berkeley Shochiku Bai Saki brewery and an hibachi lunch at Benihana of Tokyo, San Francisco. Time is allotted for exploring Japantown, and a visit to Golden Gate Park's Japanese Tea gardens when many of the blossoms will be out.

The trip begins at the Senior Center at 9:30 a.m. and ends at the center at (estimated) 6 p.m.

Cost is \$33, payable in full at time of registration, due no later than March 17.

Register on Monday, Wednesday or Friday with Alice King, travel coordinator, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The trip is open to all coach capacity limits participants to 45, so sign up early.

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Albany Newsline

Complying with federal, state mandates is costly

Daren Fields
Assistant City Manager

The responsibilities of local government are not the same as they were 15, 10 or even five years ago. During the past few years, the federal and state government have passed a number of laws mandating that local government meet new regulations, provide additional services, and attain certain goals.

These laws have been mandated with no financial assistance. Addressing these mandates requires an enormous amount of time and money.

These new laws reflect increasingly complex social problems which are being left for local governments to solve. They cover a wide spectrum, from water quality, air quality, garbage and recycling to transportation and individuals with disabilities.

Some of these new mandates include: The Clean Water Act. The City of Albany is under order from the State Water Quality Control Board to rehabilitate its sewer system and storm drain system in order to meet federal Clean Water requirements.

Proposition 111. Passage of this proposition in



1990 mandates that Albany must work toward reducing vehicle trips and meet Clean Air standards.

• The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989. This legislation requires that Albany recycle 25 percent of its waste stream by 1993 and 50 percent of its waste stream by the year 2000.

• The Americans With Disabilities Act. This new federal law mandates that public accommodations, new construction and alterations to existing facilities must be accessible to the disabled. Although the goals of the ADA are appropriate and needed, implementation has significant costs.

• The Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training. This Commission mandates that every sworn officer attend 24 hours of pre-approval training every two years.

In addition, every time a law enforcement person is promoted to a managerial position they must attend an 80-hour course of instruction within 12 months of appointment.

These mandates are but a few examples of the myriad requirements which Albany is forced to meet with no additional resources. In addition, Albany is being forced to interact as part of regional approaches to problems such as congestion management and waste management.

So not only does the city have less money to work with, we have less autonomy to develop our own solutions to the problems.

Albany is truly on its own financially. We must rely upon ourselves to fund our own local services as well as the many mandates which are placed upon us.



Getting ready for a nightmare

El Cerrito High School Thespians will perform Christopher Durang's *The Actor's Nightmare* this weekend, along with *Revenge of the Space Pandas*. Performing in the comedy will be Marlan Glenn-Ellis, Adam Costello, Jacob Rosenbaum, Becky White, Judy Nutting and Aaron Calbreath-Frasier. Bridget Watson (seated) will direct the troupe.

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David & Bev Farrell	Charles Klein	Carole Fegle	Carole Fegle	Robert Marshall	Kathleen & Chico Pacheco	Patricia Shane-Rustvold	Patricia Shane-Rustvold
Barbara Ferretti	Cheryl Nichols	Victor Fischer	Victor Fischer	Michael Blake	Elaine Meyer	Bernard & Ruth Garnett	Bernard & Ruth Garnett
Terri Cosby	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Wayne & Fe Moore	Shelley Cadman	Charles Herndon	Charles Herndon
Cherly Ziperstein	Harold Caplan	Van & Judith Carey	Van & Judith Carey	Neil & Lynda Nicol	Marie Mintz	Bob & Bonnie Jones	Bob & Bonnie Jones
Frank & Carolyn Chin	Vicki & Geni Chin	David & Kathy Clement	David & Kathy Clement	Alan Narrell	Alan Nakasato	Leslie Kelly	Leslie Kelly
Stacy Corbett	Lynne Dennis	Michael & Patricia Devos	Michael & Patricia Devos	Larry Narrell	Marie Nakasato	Karla Rodebusch	Karla Rodebusch
Amy Berg	Sue Douglass	David & Carla Danby	David & Carla Danby	Robert Marshall	Norm & Joann Nelson	Kim Jorgensen	Kim Jorgensen
David & Bev Farrell	Charles Klein	Carole Fegle	Carole Fegle	Michael Blake	Mr. & Mrs. John Newell	Richard & Diane Lohman	Richard & Diane Lohman
Barbara Ferretti	Cheryl Nichols	Victor Fischer	Victor Fischer	Wayne & Fe Moore	Joan Kresich	Jane & David Stern	Jane & David Stern
Terri Cosby	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Neil & Lynda Nicol	Bob NewHall	Gwynne Tompkinson	Gwynne Tompkinson
Cherly Ziperstein	Harold Caplan	Van & Judith Carey	Van & Judith Carey	Jay Lamont	Holly McCulloch	Richard & Jane Muse	Richard & Jane Muse
Frank & Carolyn Chin	Vicki & Geni Chin	David & Kathy Clement	David & Kathy Clement	Roger Ranney	James & Karen Quay	Matthew Plan	Matthew Plan
Stacy Corbett	Lynne Dennis	Michael & Patricia Devos	Michael & Patricia Devos	Anthony & Kathleen Bowers	James & Karen Quay	James Holton	James Holton
Amy Berg	Sue Douglass	David & Carla Danby	David & Carla Danby	Antonio & Catherine Aramayo	Janice & Karen Quay	Eric Strellis	Eric Strellis
David & Bev Farrell	Charles Klein	Carole Fegle	Carole Fegle	Debbie & Matt Wyss	Jeanne Pietrzak	Hugh Barroll	Hugh Barroll
Barbara Ferretti	Cheryl Nichols	Victor Fischer	Victor Fischer	Kathy Beals	Joseph Pomar	Barbara & Bob Guletz	Barbara & Bob Guletz
Terri Cosby	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Laura Peck	Hillary Model	Kay Mitchell	Kay Mitchell
Cherly Ziperstein	Harold Caplan	Van & Judith Carey	Van & Judith Carey	Joann & Norm Nelson	Ariel Power	Janet Newman	Janet Newman
Frank & Carolyn Chin	Vicki & Geni Chin	David & Kathy Clement	David & Kathy Clement	Joan Kresich	Libby & Dick DiGennaro	Bonnie Nolte	Bonnie Nolte
Stacy Corbett	Lynne Dennis	Michael & Patricia Devos	Michael & Patricia Devos	Bob NewHall	James & Karen Quay	Sandra Ried	Sandra Ried
Amy Berg	Sue Douglass	David & Carla Danby	David & Carla Danby	Holly McCulloch	James & Karen Quay	Paul Delrup	Paul Delrup
David & Bev Farrell	Charles Klein	Carole Fegle	Carole Fegle	Owen T. Jones	James & Karen Quay	David Stump	David Stump
Barbara Ferretti	Cheryl Nichols	Victor Fischer	Victor Fischer	Holly McCulloch	James & Karen Quay	Marge & Lee Seidel	Marge & Lee Seidel
Terri Cosby	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Duane & Roberta Focht	Owen T. Jones	James & Karen Quay	James & Maria Carter	James & Maria Carter

Future residents of this city will be grateful that we had the foresight to see to it that our school buildings were kept up and maintained so that the next generation will be as proud to live in Albany as we are.

- John & Agnes Mullarkey, Cornell Avenue

I urge all concerned voters to get out and vote YES for Measure A so that our children can remain competitive in the 1990's and beyond.

- Bruce Barrows, Johnson Street

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Goings on About Town

Performances

Dark political comedy, "Crimes in Hot Countries," plays weekends through March 27 at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays; 7 p.m. Sundays. \$10/\$8. 549-0753.

Performance series at Berkeley Art Center opens Feb. 26-27 with Gerardo Navarro and Edge of the World Ensemble. 8 p.m. at 1275 Walnut St. 644-6893.

Ladino-Moroccan music by Gerineldo is featured in a gala concert Saturday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. at Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. \$12/\$15. Matinee concert March 2 at 1 p.m., \$4/\$6; children's concert at 4 p.m., \$1/\$2.

Trinity Chamber Concerts presents City Winds woodwind quintet on Saturday, Feb. 27, 8 p.m. at Trinity Chapel, Bancroft and Durant, Berkeley. \$8/\$5. 549-3864.

Cal Performances welcomes Jon Jang and the African-Chinese Sextet to Zellerbach Hall Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. \$18/\$15/\$11; ODC performs March 5-8 at 8 p.m. \$26/\$22/\$17. 642-9988 or fax 643-6707.

Terrace Bar, Claremont Hotel hosts Feb. 25: Pamela Rose/Nate Ginsberg Trio; Feb. 26-27: Latin Fire. Music begins at 9 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Call 549-8576 for more information.

Vocalist Lauren Pomerantz sings "Jewels of the Sephardim — Songs of Medieval Spain" Saturday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. at First Congregational Church, Dana and Durant streets, Berkeley. \$14/\$12.50.

Hertz Hall Wednesday Noon concerts March 3: Japanese music with Michael Hattori, Philip Flavin, Robin Hartshorne and Yuriko Sakamoto. UC-Berkeley.

Kensington Symphony presents music of Beethoven, Leopold Mozart, Kodaly and Dvorak on Saturday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. at First Unitarian Church, One Lawson Road, Kensington. \$5. 524-4038.

University Dance Theatre's spring concert season — honoring the post-spring semester retirement of Professor David Wood — opens Thursday, March 4, with alternating programs through March 13. Call 642-8276 for information.

Upstage, poetry jazz ensemble, is at La Pena Sunday, Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m.; Costa Rican classical guitarist Randall Dordom-Derrera, 8 p.m., March 3. \$10. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 849-2568.

Young People's Symphony Orchestra performs for alumni night on Friday, March 5 at 8 p.m. 843-3053.

"St. Matthew Passion" with Paul Elliot, Paul Hillier and Theatre of Voices, is the MusicSources presentation Saturday, Feb. 27 at 8 p.m. Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. \$15. 524-1685.

Tea Spot Cafe, Thursday, March 4, 8 p.m.: Scarecrow, Gina Paulto, and Bern. 2072 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 848-7376.

Starry Plough, 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Feb. 25: Eyeland, Gavin Canaan; Feb. 26: Jump with Joey, The Loved Ones; Feb. 27: The Looters, Preacher Boy and the Natural Blues; Feb. 28: The Claddagh Band; Irish dance lessons and music Mondays beginning at 7 p.m.; Tuesdays and Wednesdays: darbs at 8 p.m.

Ashkenaz on Feb. 25; Les Exodus, \$6; Feb. 26: Kotaja, 9:30 p.m.; Feb. 27: Caribbean Allstars, 9:30 p.m.; Fe. 28: Zydeco Flames in anti-SLAPP benefit, 8 p.m.; \$6; March 2: Jazayer, 9 p.m., with Greek dance lesson at 8 p.m., \$5; March 3: Gumbo Band, 9 p.m., with dance lesson at 8 p.m., \$5. 1317 San Pablo, Berkeley. 525-5054.

Berkley Piano Club hosts a recital of piano solo, piano four-hand and violin-piano duos on Sunday, Feb. 28, 7:30 p.m. 2724 Haste St., Berkeley. \$6.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts presents Human Nature performing "Queen Salmon" through Feb. 27 and March 4-6 at 8 p.m.; Feb. 28 and March 7 (Sundays) at 2 p.m. at Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. \$12/\$10/\$8. 84-JULIA.

"**You Can't Take It With You**" is at Contra Costa Civic Theatre Fridays and Saturdays through Feb. 27; matinee Feb. 21. 524-9132.

At Berkeley Rep: Volpone, \$23-\$31. 2025 Addison, 845-4700.

Self-defense classes will be held Tuesdays through March 8 from 8 to 9:30 p.m. at the Downtown Berkeley YMCA.

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\$35 members/\$60 others. 848-YMCA. **Subterranean Shakespeare** performs Hamlet at La Val's Subterranean Cabaret, 1834 Euclid, Berkeley. Thursday through Sundays through March 27. Cabaret opens at 6:30 p.m. for dinner seating, performance at 7 p.m. Sunday shows at 1 p.m. \$8/\$6. 540-7743.

Jim Johnson, former Lutheran pastor now participating in music ministry, will present a concert at Lutheran Church of the Cross, 1744 University Ave., Berkeley on Feb. 27 at 7 p.m.

Owner Builder Homes presents a free seminar "Kit Homes — an Affordable Route to a Quality Home" on Thursday, Feb. 26, 7:30 p.m. Gramma's Inn, 2740 Telegraph. 482-9632 for reservations.

Meetings, Classes, Lectures and other events

Best of the Banff Festival of Mountain Films will be screened Friday, Feb. 26 at UC-Berkeley's Dwinelle Hall, Room 155, from 7-10 p.m. Hosted by REI. Tickets \$8; \$6 in advance at REI, 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 527-4100.

"Days of Waiting," a film by Steven Okazaki, will be screened at Berkeley Public Library's South Branch, 1901 Russell, on Friday, March 5 at 7 p.m. Filmmaker Okazaki will be on hand to discuss the 28-minute film. 644-6860.

Tear gas training is scheduled at Albany City Hall, 1000 San Pablo Avenue, on Saturday, Feb. 27, 9:11 a.m. 524-5056.

Archery lessons in the classic Old English style of drawing bow are taught by Michael Lang on weekends in Berkeley. Call 841-7749 for information.

Bay Bridge Stamp and Postcard Show, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 28, at the Holiday Inn, Emeryville. Free. 707/421-8950.

It's Cajun Swing at Albany YMCA Friday folkdance on Feb. 27, Lesson 7:30; dancing 8:30. \$5. 921 Kains, Albany. 525-1130.

Update on Palestine with activist Elias Rashmawi tonight, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. at La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 849-2568.

Yogaerobics master class taught by Laura Sachs, will be held Saturday, March 6, 10 to 11:30 a.m. at Herobics, 9951 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito. \$7. 524-8416.

Gathering Tribes hosts classes in beadwork Wednesday, 7-9 p.m. atr Saturday, 10 a.m. to noon. \$15. 1309 Solano Ave., Albany. 528-9038.

REI hosts "A Hawaii Sampler" with Ray Riegert on Thursday, Feb. 25, 7 p.m.

Magic Gardens class Feb. 27, 10 a.m.: "Introduction to Composting," with Cindy Nelson. \$10. Reserve a place at 644-2351. 729 Heinz, Berkeley.

New Pieces classes: "Learn to Quilt" with Adele Ingram is Saturday, Feb. 27, 2-3:30 p.m. \$6; "Intermediate Machine Quilting" with Karen Matsumoto is three Mondays, March 1-15, 7-10 p.m., or Thursdays, March 4-18, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. \$35; "Creating Optical Patterns with Stripes" with Mary Marshuta is Thursday, March 2-23, 7-10 p.m. \$50; "Drafting Quilting Patterns" with Lucy Hiltz is Wednesday, March 3-17, \$35. 1597 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 527-6779.

Bicycle Improvements for Berkeley is the topic of a city workshop Saturday, Feb. 27, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at West Berkeley Senior Center, 1900 Sixth St. 644-6490.

African American cuisine is on the table on Thursday, Feb. 25, 5-7 p.m. at International House. All-you-can-eat

buffet: \$5.95. Readings and baritone Macatee Hollie follow; African Bazaar will be held Sunday, Feb. 28, 1-6 p.m. 2299 Piedmont Ave., Berkeley. 642-9460.

Berkeley Hiking Club Feb. 28: Peninsula Double Header, 8:30 a.m., Iron Rock (532-6379); mini-hike: Diablo Foothills, 9:30 a.m., Jacque Fields (357-8177).

Town Meeting on National Health Insurance sponsored by the Gray Panthers on Saturday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m. 560 20th St., Oakland. 527-3790.

City Commons Club Friday luncheon speaker, Feb. 26, is the Rev. Bonnie Bloom on "Homeless in Berkeley." Reserve at 848-3533.

Graduate Theological Union presents a series on sacred texts, Feb. 25: "What Makes a Text Sacred?" with John Palmer Brown. 7:30 p.m. 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley. The public is invited.

"Cancer Quackery" is the topic for East Bay Skeptics on Friday, Feb. 26, 159 Mulford Hall, UC-Berkeley. Free. 420-0702.

Young People's lecture series at UCB's Earth Sciences Building on Saturday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m.: "Dinosaur Deaths and Cretaceous Questions." 642-1607.

Birthways classes: Thursday, Feb. 25, 7-8:30 p.m., "So Many Decisions, So Little Time"; Feb. 27, 1-2:30 p.m., "CPR & How to Childproof"; March 2, 9, 16, 23, 7-8:30 p.m., "Infant Massage Instruction for Parents." 869-2797.

Carolyn Beth Weil, owner of the Bakeshop in Berkeley, will teach a class on apple pie, devil's food cake and sugar cookies at Pamela Grove's Regent Street Cooking on Thursday, Feb. 25 at 7 p.m. \$35. 548-9249.

UC-Botanical Garden presents "Bug Days" for the whole family. Feb. 26-28, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. \$1.50 adults, 50 cents children. 642-3352.

Rotary-Chabot Planetary programs Friday and Saturday nights, 4917 Mountain Blvd., Oakland. 530-3480.

"Business Expansion In Berkeley" is the League of Women Voters' brown bag lunch topic for Friday, March 7. CEB Building, 2300 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

Rota Bates Medical Center: Ongoing older adult services: Blood pressure checks first and third Wednesdays from 1-2:30 p.m.; cholesterol checks, third Wednesdays, 10 a.m. to noon; hearing checks, third Thursdays, 2:15 p.m. to 4 p.m. (Appointments necessary, a fee is charged); Foot and leg circulation screening, second Wednesdays, 1-3 p.m. 204-4475.

UC Botanical Garden, Strawberry Canyon, Berkeley, presents Garden tours Saturdays and Sundays at 1:30 p.m. Dina Days garden tour daily through March 24. 642-3343.

La Leche League groups in South Berkeley meets 10 a.m. March 17, April 21 and May 19 at San Pablo Park Rec Center, 2800 Park St., Berkeley. 849-4572.

Learn to ski with an REI day trip to either Bear Valley, Royal Gorge or Tahoe Donner. Dates are Feb. 27 and March 13. \$50 for REI members, \$60 others; rentals \$40/\$50. Introduction to snow camping, but skiing and backbow touring weekend trip is March 13-14. \$110. For information call Polly Bolling at 273-9888.

Skiers meet first and third Tuesdays in Oakland, Berkeley and Albany to socialize, share food and plan; weekend meetings \$10/night at ski lodge near Squaw. For information call Ron, membership chairman, Berkeley Ski Club, at (415) 868-2215.

Claudia Bernardi of the Argentine

Forensic Anthropological Team will speak on exhumations at El Mozote, El Salvador, tonight, Feb. 25, 7:30 p.m. at University Lutheran Chapel, 2425 College Ave., Berkeley. 644-1853.

Afraid of public speaking? Toastmasters can help. Thursday, noon to 1 p.m., 2151 Berkeley Way. 540-2477 or 528-4964.

Berkeley City Club: tours of its landmark building designed by architect Julia Morgan are the fourth Sunday of every month, noon to 4 p.m. \$1.50. 2315 Duran Ave., Berkeley. 848-7800.

Exhibits

"**Women of the World,**" a show of oil paintings by Gail Feazell, is at Cafe Ariel, 1600 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, through April 30. 845-4300.

"**East Bay Women Artists** — Youth to Maturity" features paintings a sculpture by 11 artists through March 28. 2911 Claremont Ave., Berkeley. 849-4967.

"**New Pieces** shows "Quilt Explorations," works by the Colorado group, through March 3. 1597 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 527-6779.

Graduate Theological Union shows a selection of recent painting by Hans Burkhardt through April 23. 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley.

"**A Sense of Place:** Public Art Projects and Proposals" is at the Richmond Art Center through March 21. Civic Center Plaza, Richmond. 620-6772.

Weir Gallery presents "Spring: Rite and Renewal," paintings, drawings, prints and sculpture by varied artists through April 17. 1605 Solano Ave., Berkeley. 524-8821.

"**Native Images in Metal,**" a one-man show by Elwood Reynolds, is at Gathering Tribes through March 15. 3009 Solano Ave., Albany. 528-9038.

"**Munch and His Models,**" a traveling exhibit and lecture series on Edvard Munch sponsored by the Royal Norwegian Consulate, is at University Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft Way, Berkeley through March 21.

African fertility dolls and AIDS micrographic images by artist Oden Santiago are on display at La Pena through March 24. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 849-2568.

"**Richmond USA**" is an audiovisual performance on the history of Richmond. Performance at 6 p.m. March 4 and 18. Also, sculptures by John Toki and Archi Held are on display at Richmond Art Center, Civic Center Plaza, 25th and Barrett, Richmond. 620-6772.

"**A Stitch in Time**" a fiber art exhibit, is at the National Institute of Art and Disabilities. Through Feb. 28. 23rd S., Richmond. 620-0326.

Judah L. Magnes Museum: "The Museum at Work: Making a Difference at Home and Around the World"; "Continuity — An Enduring Heritage: Recent Gifts and Acquisitions"; "Creation and Celebration: A 30th Anniversary Tribute." An exhibition of three large-scale mixed media works by Diana Schor created especially for this anniversary. Included are "Creation," "Tree of Life."

Judah L. Magnes Museum: "The Museum at Work: Making a Difference at Home and Around the World"; "Continuity — An Enduring Heritage: Recent Gifts and Acquisitions"; "Creation and Celebration: A 30th Anniversary Tribute." An exhibition of three large-scale mixed media works by Diana Schor created especially for this anniversary. Included are "Creation," "Tree of Life."

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and "Song of David." \$3. Sunday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. 2911 Russell St., Berkeley. 549-6950.

University Art Museum: "New Asian Galleries" display the museum's Asian art collection. Gallery talks, Thursday 12:15 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 2 p.m. Free with admission. \$5 general; \$4 seniors and students; free children under age 6. Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. 2625 Durant Ave., Berkeley. 642-0808.

Hearst (Lowie) Museum: "Too Good to Be True," through March 28. An exhibition of fakes, forgeries, hoaxes and deceptions that have plagued curators and collectors; "The Choir Invisible: Photographs of Western Cemeteries," through May 2. \$1.50 general; 50 cents senior; 25 cents children. Bancroft Way and College Avenue, Berkeley. 643-7648.

Shoshana Greenberg, Adler Award winner, presents four mixed media pieces and a large installation at the Judah Magnes Museum through May 23.

Support Groups and Self-Help

Alzheimer's Association offers support groups throughout the Bay Area. For information, call (800) 942-1333.

Arts Anonymous, a support group for artists to share emotions and test material, meets Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Live Oak Park Recreation Hub, Berryman and Shattuck, Berkeley. 527-1243.

Brookside Hospital hosts the following support groups — Stroke, first Thursday, 7:30 p.m.; Burn, first Tuesday, 5:30 p.m.; Heart, fourth Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.; Cancer, second and fourth Tuesday, 5:30-7:30 p.m.; Ostomy, fourth Monday, 7:30 p.m. 2000 Vale Road, San Pablo. Call 235-7006 for more information.

Adult Children of Alcoholic (or Other Dysfunctional) Families meets Thursday mornings at 10 a.m. at Northminster Presbyterian Church, Ashbury between Central and Lincoln, El Cerrito. Free.

Type I Insulin dependent young adults, 18-40, are invited to a support group second Saturdays every month, 10:30 a.m. to noon at the Diabetic Youth Foundation in Walnut Creek. 937-3393.

Alzheimer's Support Group at Doctors Hospital the second Wednesday of every month at 1 p.m. 2911 Appian Way, Pinole. 724-5040. Support Group meets the third Monday of every month at 7 p.m. 741-2442.

Leukemia Society sponsors support groups for leukemia, Hodgkin's disease, lymphoma and multiple myeloma and their families and friends; every other Friday, 9 a.m. at All Souls Episcopal Church, 1405-4905.

American Schizophrenia Association-Alliance for the Mentally Ill support group meets bimonthly at the conference meeting room at the Hospital, 2001 Dwight Way, Berkeley. Meetings are open and free to the public.

Berkeley Fire Resource Center 2907 Claremont Blvd., has a women's support group which Wednesdays from 7 to 8:30 p.m. 7701.

Overeaters Anonymous (Cerrito) meets Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m. at El Cerrito United Methodist Church, 6830 Stockton. 273-9295.

Overeaters Anonymous (Berkeley) meets every Saturday to give aid to those with eating problems. 10 a.m.; newcomers meet at 8 p.m. John's Presbyterian Church, 2707 Dwight Ave. 763-4971.

Secular Organizations for Scientific Inquiry (S.O.S.) meets Mondays, 8 p.m. at Berkeley/Albany Recovery Center, 2126 Sixth St., and Tuesdays, 7:30 p.m. at Berkeley Unitarian Church Children's Center, 1606 Bonita. 2221.

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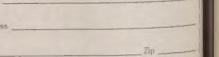
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THANKS TO BERKELEY FARMS, INC.

Downpours swamp 1940 race track opening

Writer recalls it was "raining wild" at Golden Gate Fields

Jack Biringer

Rain, rain, rain and more rain. December, January and February of 1940-41, we had rain, rain, rain and even more rain.

There was a new race track in Bay Area. The inaugural was for Saturday, Dec. 28, 1940. Golden Gate Turf Club was located in Albany and Emeryville, on the shores of storm-swept San Francisco Bay. There had been no horse racing in the Bay for 30 years, although some old-timers fondly recalled Emeryville track.

It was an idyllic time. The new Golden Gate and San Francisco-Oakland Bay bridges were the greatest in the world. The 1939-40 Gold's Fair and Exposition was a marvelous success.

Children could take Key System trains across the Bay Bridge, transfer at Yerba Buena to Treasure Island and see the fair. You could leave your doors unlocked. The Bay Area was a jungle. There was always San Francisco, too — yes, Herb Caen's "Baghdad by the Bay." We had it all. Everything seemed bigger and better in those days. Even the rains of December 28, the heaviest in a decade.

Golden Gate Turf Club's groundbreaking was early 1939. Actors, dignitaries, luminaries and prominent investors were there. Heading the Hollywood contingent was Bing Crosby. He named the little resort track, Del Norte, "Where the Turf Meets the Sea."

The track was built at Point Fleming, directly opposite the Golden Gate. The property is a dairy with farm buildings on the hillside where the grandstand was constructed. The area where the track was laid out,

between East Shore Highway and the little hill, was a low marsh-like meadow. It often flooded.

Now the Bay Area could claim "The Latest of America's Great Tracks!" We had the Golden Gate Turf Club, heralded by the press as the most modern and largest race course in America. By December 1940, workmen were applying finishing touches. The huge grandstand glittered and gleamed in the rain. Its modern facilities even outshone Santa Anita and Hollywood Park.

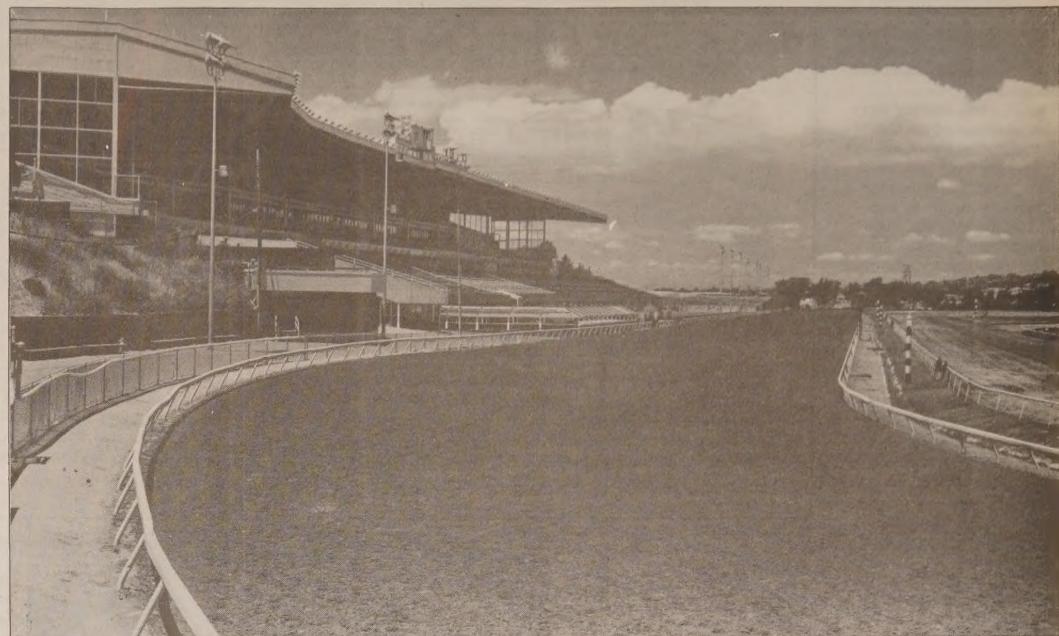
Apropos, the Golden Gate color themes — Pacific blues and California golds and white — were used throughout the plant for the logo, advertising, and racing programs. The grandstand exterior was bright sky-blue, trimmed with Art Deco double white stripes.

The building was a landmark that could be seen from almost anywhere halfway around San Francisco Bay.

Designed not only for beauty, but utility and economy, the grandstand facade was fabricated with basic modular steel panels. The finish was permanent sky-blue glazed ceramic ferro enamel, all but maintenance free, never needing paint.

The unique open-air circular, standee terraced saddling paddock was located directly in front of the stands. In fact, there was an unobstructed view of paddock activities from all 18,900 grandstand seats. The paddock design has often been imitated.

The cut and grading of Pt. Fleming hill provided thousands of tons of boulders and earth as landfill and breakwaters for the vast parking lots and stable area. The magnitude of the project was dwarfed only by engineering genius. The architect carved and



terraced the all-but-solid rock hillside. Then the Grandstand, Club House, and Turf and Paddock Club were stacked one on top of the other, virtually eliminating costly understructure.

The giant, four-level, triple-tiered building soared 90 feet upward and stepped back from the track. The grandstand, with seating and all activities concentrated on the finish line, was the first of its kind, and has widely influenced the design of many contemporary race tracks.

In addition, an innovative redesign of the standard one-mile track introduced the "spiralizing" of the turns to a 7-1/2-foot gradient as opposed to the 5-foot grade along the new, extra-long and safe stretches. These design features contributed greatly to the track's one day being hailed as

Above: Golden Gate Fields in the '80s under sunny skies; right: 1963 Winners Circle photo of Running Turk shows view of grandstand before structural changes in the '70s

"The World's Fastest Race Track." Golden Gate was an original.

The Golden Gate plan was conceived and designed by Oakland architect and engineer Maury I. Diggs. He was involved in early plans for Santa Anita, and designed and built Hollywood Park, Bay Meadows and "Black Jack" Jerome's El Cerrito Kennel Club and track (now El Cerrito Plaza), etc.

The rains began Dec. 14, 1940. By Dec. 25, it was still raining. Maury Diggs and his wife, Marsha, were invited to the Biringer home for Christmas dinner. My father, businessman and owner-trainer M. D. "Bob"



Biringer, was Diggs' associate during the building of Hollywood Park.

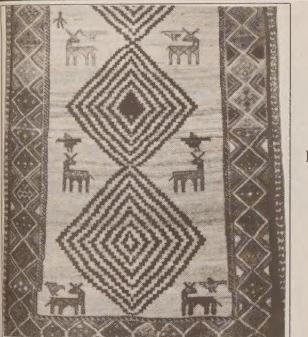
Dinner conversation was dominated by the track's opening three days away. Diggs was optimistic, and had plans. "We may build a big hotel and restaurant overlooking the bay and Golden Gate Bridge," he said. "At the north end of the property, I want to develop a marina and build a yacht club..."

It was pouring rain. Slip Madigan, general manager, advised race fans to "Come rain or come shine, Golden Gate Race Track will open Saturday, Dec. 28, 1940, as scheduled."

Although, the stable area was plagued with mud, local trainers, including Ed "Turkey" Wright and Theresa Loeff, had their stables and handicap horses on the grounds.

Powerful eastern stables, Mrs. Emil Denemark, Col. Phil T. Chinn, L. C. Young and others,

See RAIN, page 8



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Edvard Munch spent a lot of time home alone. In his studio. Painting and drawing. (Sometimes he had a model for company.)

We've borrowed one hundred of these paintings and drawings from the Munch Museum in Norway and we think you should come see them. If you don't like crowds, come on Thursday night. But don't wait too long — the exhibition closes March 21.



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Rain

Continued from page 7

were early arrivals. Barry Whitehead, racing secretary, took entries for the opening card. It had been raining incessantly since Dec. 14. Weathermen offered not a ray of sunshine, nor a forecast encouragement.

Dec. 27, 1940, attorney Jerry Giesler, chairman of the California Horse Racing Board, refused to approve the track because unceasing rains had turned the track into a "veritable swamp-land." Opening day was postponed until Jan. 1, 1941.

Diggs maintained all the track needed was sunshine and horses to stay off it, and cited the 3/8th chute, blocked off all week, and dry and fast. The track was sealed. Little rain fell on Monday and Tuesday. Hallelujah.

New Year's Day, 1941, 25,000 racing fans flocked to Golden Gate. At 11 a.m., dapper Jerry Giesler, flying up from L.A., announced the track as "unsafe for horse and rider."

Mysteriously, overnight, tractors had dragged the track. There were ridges of hard clay soil 12 to 16 inches deep in the stretch. To this day, it remains a mystery as to who ordered the work, or how, and why?

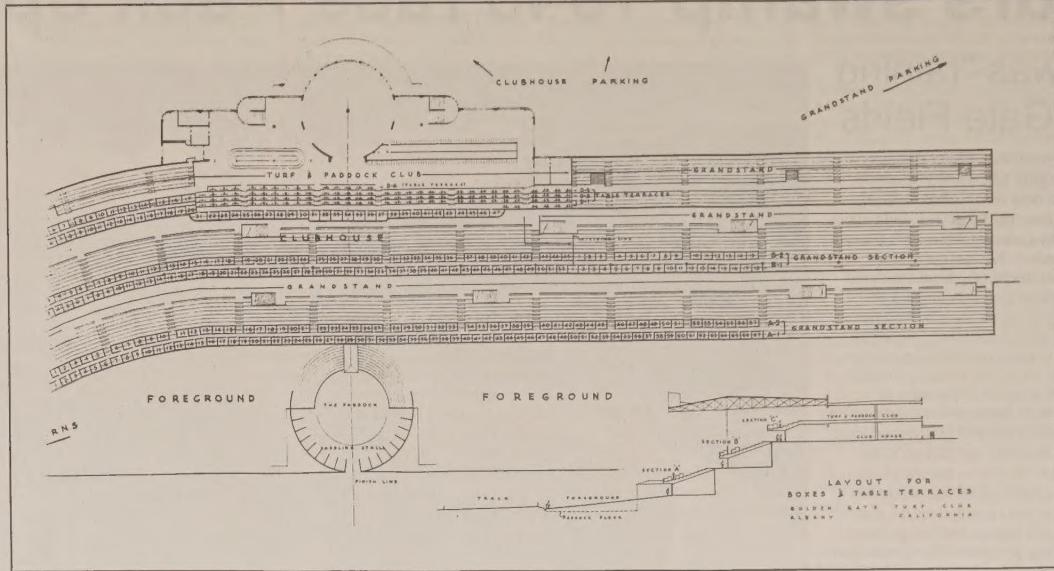
Although, the rain had stopped by Friday, Jan. 10, obviously the track couldn't open on Saturday, either. General manager Slip Madigan, Notre Dame football great-St. Mary's coach, needed a miracle play. Harry Brown, steamship executive and president of Golden Gate, and track directors brought in big earth-moving equipment. Frantically, tons of famed Pleasanton topsoil was removed from the track, piled high in the landscaped infield. They were ready to put a cushion on the track.

Unfortunately, rains began again. By Jan. 14, Oakland's annual rainfall had doubled. Other openings on Saturday Jan. 18 and 25 were washed out.

"Herb was just kidding!" began an item in the Chronicle Sporting Green, Jan. 28, 1941. It was strictly a joke and columnist Herb Caen apology to Albany Track officials. In part, here's what Caen had said on radio: "Attention, Slip Madigan. Things are not so tough with your poor old \$2.5 million dollar race track. National defense authorities are going to buy the plant for plenty of dough, and use it for a submarine base."

Golden Gate finally opened on Saturday, Feb. 1, 1941, with weather threatening and the track slow. More than 20,000 enthusiastic racing fans jammed the track. The Bing Crosby-bred horse Skukumchukwon the first race. Feature races were the California Lassie Stakes and the first Albany Handicap. Neil S. McCarthy's filly, Augury, easily won the latter.

Due to unrelenting rain and other circumstances, the betting handle was even less than anticipated. Racing resumed Wednesday, Feb. 5. Rain continued, attendance and betting



Above: Architect's drawing of original grandstand; right: architect Maury Diggs greets owner-trainer Bob Biringer (1948)

dwindled, horses ran slower. White barns were a mud-splattered mess, the track heavier and deeper.

Attendance and betting took a brief rise Sat., Feb. 8. Exploded did just that. Mrs. J. D. Parsons' horse was the upset winner of the long delayed \$10,000 New Year's Handicap. However, the last race was ominous. Melody Boots went down, broke her shoulder, and was humanely destroyed.

"Albany unsafe; permit revoked" and "Albany meeting cancelled; receiver appointed by court," Chronicle Sporting Green headlines, Feb. 11-12, 1941.

Golden Gate Turf Club's license was suspended because "the track was unsafe." Now the track faced bankruptcy.

A week later, my father and I drove out to the track in the old LaSalle. It was late afternoon, the weather threatening. There were horses for sale, some at bargain prices. A large horse van lumbered out of "the backstretch," and Dad couldn't drive far into the stable area—mud and water were everywhere.

A horse trailer was stuck. Horsemen and grooms tried to free it. We walked from barn to barn on long wooden planks. Some barns were empty.

We arrived at a barn near the track as the gigantic Golden Gate Grandstand loomed up ahead against the dark clouds. Wise Beauty was a chestnut mare with a white blaze. The look of the eagles, I thought. She had won a race closing day, but purse money was tied up in the track's financial woes. Wise Beauty's



owner-trainer was broke.

We drove up the hill behind the grandstand. I walked along the promenade of the round Club House building, peering in windows. At the Turf and Paddock Club entrance, I paused.

A week earlier, racing fans were ascending the classic twin staircases, with spectacular views on either side of the Turf Club and Club House building. Art Deco interiors were shades of

blue, with white, metallic golds, and golden poppy orange accents. The posh Turf and Paddock Club sported a luxurious royal blue carpet, then an undreamed-of extravagance. There were two fireplaces, white Philippine mahogany bars, lots of glass, and brass fixtures, plus, an "Unparalleled Million Dollar View" of the Golden Gate from Turf Club and Club House circular lounges and the sweeping twin

stairways.

For Maury Diggs, who studied with Frank Lloyd Wright, sent back invitations to join A. I. A., and designed and built many important buildings, the Golden Gate facility was the culmination of 30 years as one of the top architects of his time. The heartbreak of a lifetime, Golden Gate was Diggs' masterpiece.

There it was, the Golden Gate Grandstand, not unlike a giant luxury liner, her sleek, gleaming, sky-blue hull shown brightly in fading light of day. A ship gone aground, with all the horses slowly departing. Fourteen cylindrical blue columns, encircled with hoops of gold leaf, shot upwards to support the huge cantilever grandstand roof. Colorful pennants proudly waved to the crowd long gone. A ghost ship.

I always remember Golden Gate as originally designed. Through the years, there have been many architectural changes, some good, some not so good. The sweeping, classic twin staircases with spectacular views, are gone. Unwittingly, even the "Million Dollar View" from the

Turf Club was tampered with. The entire first balcony was moved forward at least 15 feet, partially obstructing the view of the run into the first turn from many vantage points, spoiling original site lines and some views of paddock activities.

Regrettably, the unique, circular saddling paddock has been torn out and modified many times. The landmark sky-blue grandstand has been painted over innumerable times, too. The trademark image of Pacific blues and California golds, which contributed so greatly to the eventual early success and world fame of Golden Gate Fields, is long gone.

As the car headed down the Club House hill and along the road between San Francisco Bay and the stable area, I sadly wondered: As the Phoenix rose from the ashes, could Golden Gate Race Track rise from its watery despair?

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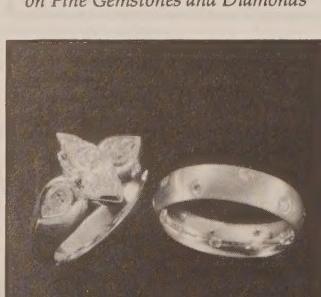
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Interfaith choir meeting inspires good music and friendship

The music is glorious and the camaraderie is great when singers sing together in the annual Festival of Choirs.

This event, sponsored by GRIP (Greater Richmond Interfaith Program) brings together choirs from many of the churches that are part of their organization.

The choirs sing individually or when they blend their many voices into one mighty chorus. It is amazing.

Each year a different church hosts the festival. This year it is the turn of Temple Beth Hillel, the only Jewish synagogue in GRIP.

Since the host chooses the songs for the group chorus, Temple Beth Hillel's cantor, Howard Cohen, was able to make his choice.

The music he chose was composed in the 14th century and includes one hymn in Hebrew (An Olom), one in English (The Words), both from the Mass liturgy. The music is lush, the harmonica beautiful and the choruses demanding.

In addition, the group will sing Gabrielli's magnificent "Come Let Us Sing A Song Of Praise." When the many voices join together the result is thrilling for both the singers and the audience.

Felicia Cipolla of Mira Vista EC Church who, with Joanna Nichols of Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, co-chairs the event, expects that 12 church choirs will sing up to take part.

In addition, two Laotian groups, one from Grace Lutheran Church and one from St. Paul's, have volunteered to sing some of their native music, which should be extremely interesting.

GRIP, an organization of various groups from all of West

Contra Costa County and Albany, established the Festival of Choirs as one of the many ways of bringing together peoples of all persuasions, races and culture, to help avoid a recurrence of the riots of the 1960s.

The organization has benefited the region greatly, having started the Food Pantry, the respite program for fragile adults, many of them suffering from Alzheimer's disease, and several other important and innovative programs.

Recently GRIP took over the sponsorship of the Souper Center, which feeds some 200 to 300 or more hungry people every day.

The Festival of Choirs will be held on Sunday, Feb. 28, at 3 p.m. at Temple Beth Hillel, 801 Park Central in Richmond.

The Temple is located of Hilltop Drive East of I-80 and across the freeway from Hilltop

Mall.

The public is invited to attend, free, and partake of the music, the fellowship and the light refreshment which will follow.

It is an interfaith, intercultural musical experience not to be missed.

Winning book

It was great delight to learn that Patricia Elmore, who was profiled in these pages not long ago, has been nominated for an Edgar for her book *Susannah and the Purple Mongoose*. Pat Elmore writes mysteries for the young, and they are warm, witty and wisely crafted.

The Edgar, named after the wonderful and original mystery writer, Edgar Allan Poe, is the Oscar of the mystery writers, and it is a single honor even to be nominated for the award.

"And I am in such great

company," the starry eyed Elmore said.

Five authors are nominated in each category, and of the five nominated in the Juvenile Mystery category, two are well known to her and she considers them very superior writers.

"And I intend to read the other two, whom I don't know, as soon as possible" she says.

The other nominees are Chris Von Allburg, Eve Bunting, Peri R. Griffin and Ray Prather.

Pat also reported happily that several of the local women mystery writers, fellow members of Sisters In Crime, had visited her unexpectedly after learning of her nomination, bringing champagne to toast her and congratulate her for this great, and well deserved honor.

The Edgar Awards Banquet will be held in New York on Friday, April 30, and says

Community Folk

By Clara-Rae Genser



Patricia Elmore, "I will certainly be going to New York in April."

Congratulations. And much continued success.

And congratulations to localite Joshua G. Genser, a business lawyer with the Richmond firm of Norris & Norris, who has been elected chairman of the Richmond Private Industry Council, which administers federal job training funds.

Quoting the Examiner, "Genser said, 'The Richmond PIC has a cooperative program in which Kaiser Permanente trains radiological technicians recruited by the PIC while the PIC pays the

trainees a salary. It is our hope to create more such cooperative programs between the PIC and private industry."

Good events, good people, lots of water and the sun is breaking out. A good day to all.

Thank you, Felicia Cipolla, for reminding me of the Festival of Choirs. And thank you, Maurice Newburn, of Newburn Books, for calling me about Patricia Elmore.

And I invite all of to give me your suggestions. Please write me at 555 Pierce St., No. 443, Albany 94706 or call 525-4585.

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Albany Chamber of Commerce

Annual Albany Day at the Races scheduled for March 6

By Fern Luoma

A special welcome mat will be out for Albany residents at Golden Gate Fields March 6 when the community celebrates Albany Day at the Races.

Those who hold Albany Day at the Races raffle tickets and tickets mailed by Golden Gate Fields to all Albany residences will be admitted free and given reserved seating for that day only.

Albany nonprofit organizations, school groups and seniors are participating in this annual fundraiser by selling tickets entitling the bearer free admission, reserved seating, a generous discount at Gina's Pizza and Italian Restaurant and the opportunity to win one of 37 valuable prizes donated by Albany Chamber of Commerce members.

Monies collected will be used for school athletic programs, purchasing of musical instruments, scholarships, youth programs, camperships, beautification projects and other areas such as assisting the deaf and blind.

The race track opens at 11 a.m. with the first race starting at 12:15 p.m. A welcoming table will be staffed by Albany Chamber of Commerce members from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Guests must enter on the Buchanan Street (north) side of the track to be welcomed by Golden Gate Fields' hostesses who will direct them to section 20, where they will be given a welcome packet and a lapel sticker allowing special seating in section 14 near the finish line.

Red, white and blue balloons will help identify the welcome table. Also greeting guests will be the Albany High School Band, under the direction of Terry Larson, who will be playing favorite selections near the entrance from noon to 2:30. Guests arriving after 2:30 may proceed directly up one level to section 14.

Each Albany residence should have received free admission tickets with reserved seating in the mail from Golden Gate Fields. With the tickets are mutual vouchers, one per family. One may receive a \$2, \$5, \$10, \$1,000, \$5,000 or \$10,000 voucher.

If a household has not received tickets in the mail by March 4, an adult member may pick them up at the Chamber office at 1108 Solano Avenue, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., on March 4 and 5 while they last. Vouchers will not be given at the Chamber office.

Raffle tickets are available

from Albany groups: Athletic Boosters, Children's Center, Lions Club, Lioness Club, Rotary Club, Little League, YMCA, Soroptimist Club, American Legion Post 292, Solano Avenue Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 292, St. Mary's College High School Albany Seniors and the Chamber of Commerce. Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5.

Prizes range from a Seiko watch, \$10 gold coin, gift certificates, United States Savings Bonds, cash, chiropractic consultations and examinations, automobile service, two night stay in Reno, restaurant gift certificates, soul treatment for your home, free cable service to other valuable prizes.

The donars are Ali's Restaurant, Albany Coin Exchange, Albany Little League, Albany YMCA, Andronico's Park and Shop, An-Other Termite Company, Bank of America, Captain Video, Century C-ble, Domino's Pizza and Gina's Pizza and Italian Restaurant.

Others are Jeans Realty, K & Company, Mary and Joe's Sporting Goods, Mechanics Bank, NTT Travel, Charles Pr D.C., Refractions, Richard's Jewelers, Joe Sio Chevrolet-Geo and Swimming for Adults Afraid in Water.

Citizen of the Year, named at the Golden Gate Fields/Chamber of Commerce Mixer in January, Mike Koepke, will have a race named in his honor.

Food service is available throughout the track. The Turf Club offers a savory buffet for groups of 10 or more, while Turf Club patrons may order from a menu if desired.

Other food concessions include Taste of Italy, Winner's Circle, South of the Border, The Market, Sweet Finish, Trax Snax, Country Kitchen and Clocker's Corner.

Children 17 and under are admitted free with a paid adult admission

Arts Festival

A wide variety of artists' handcrafted items will be exhibited for sale at the Albany Arts Spring Festival/Classic Auto Show scheduled for May 1 on the Key Route Strip at Solano Avenue.

Jurors have accepted 62 artists to participate in this second annual arts festival. The festival also includes the Second annual Classic Auto Show, children's activities and food booths.

Some of the items artists will feature are hand-crafted jewelry, pottery, stained glass, children's clothing, Folk Art wood furniture, hand-crafted musical instruments, watercolors, photography, hand woven garments, soft sculptured toys, tote bags and masks.

Chairing the event are Mary Weiland (East Bay Paint Center), chairman of the Albany Chamber of Commerce Arts Committee and Susan Adame, Arts Festival Coordinator.

Applications for the Classic Auto Show are available at the Chamber of Commerce, 1108 Solano Avenue. There is no fee for entrance.

Autos must be at least 25 years old for the classic category. Special interest autos will be accepted.

This show is for exhibit only. Committee members are David Arroyo, Raymond Grassi, Robert Wolf, Joe Sio, Adame and Weiland.

Information of the art festival and the auto show is available at the Chamber office. Phone 525-1771 weekdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

City finances

A complete detailed report of Albany's finances for 1992-93 is available at the Chamber office. The report shows income and expenses with charts.

Lodge breakfast

El Cerrito-Albany Masonic Lodge breakfast for benefit of Marin Elementary School will be held Sunday, February 28, 8 a.m. to noon. The purpose of this breakfast is to financially help in purchasing materials for the betterment of the school. Tickets may be purchased from Worshipful Master of the Lodge Clarence Nable or at the door. The price is \$4 for adults and \$2 for children under 12.

The breakfast consists of pancakes, eggs, biscuits and sausage. Reservations may be made through Noble, 6526-1192 or Rod Haney, 525-6388. The breakfast will be served at the Masonic Lodge located on Stockton Avenue at Norwell Street in El Cerrito.



El Cerrito cast and director take a break from rehearsals for "Revenge of the Space Pandas."

EC High thespians produce two plays

It's opening night for two plays at El Cerrito High School. One comedy and one children's play will be directed by members of the school's Thespian Troupe.

Junior Bridget Watson will direct Christopher Durang's *The Actor's Nightmare*.

Imagine you suddenly find yourself on stage in front of an audience.

You don't know who you are, you have no idea what your lines are or even what play is being performed. You don't know how you got there, only that you want to

wake up from this nightmare.

The comedy, *The Actor's Nightmare*, explores that dilemma. Actors are: Marian Glenn-Ellis, Jacob Rosenbaum, Becky White, Judy Nutting, Adam Costello and Aaron Calbreath-Frasier.

The comedic children's play, *Revenge of the Space Pandas*, by David Mamet, writer of the *Hoffa* screenplay and *Glengarry Glen Ross*, will be directed by Aaron Calbreath-Frasier. Two children and a sheep are spun off the earth by a two-speed clock for an adventure.

They land on a planet years away from earth, where Supreme Ruler is in need of a sweater.

Actors are: Bridget Watson, Adam Costello, Doug Franklin, Marian Glenn-Ellis, Robert Mellin, Melody Erickson, Heath Nutting, Phil Nelson, Nick Hangal and Jacob Rosenbaum.

The plays will be performed at the school's Little Theatre Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Feb. 25, 26 and 27.

Retired teachers plan lunch meeting, summer trip

The West Contra Costa Division No. 58 of the California Retired Teachers' Association will hold its regular luncheon meeting on March 2, in Linder Hall of St. Luke's Methodist Church, 3200 Barrett Ave., Richmond. Phone 232-3636 for reservations by Feb. 26.

The division welcomes to membership anyone interested in or affiliated with education. For information, phone 758-6081.

President Carol Ozanich will conduct the executive board meeting at 9:30 a.m. in the Friendship Room of the Church. All officers and committee chairmen are urged to attend.

Following lunch, Paul Brown, the program chairman will introduce Darrol Davis, the director of the Anniversary Program honoring the charter members of Division No. 58. Davis is a charter member and a past president of the organization which was formed in March of 1968.

Twenty-three of the charter members are still active and have been invited to attend as honored guests, and to share remembrances to Alaska of 15 days/14 nights has been planned by the tour director for late summer. There will be

many trips to such places as National Park, Shagway, Whitehorse, and Sitka.

For details and further information, phone 232-2777.

Church speaks

The public is invited to the second midweek Lenten meal at Grace Lutheran Church on Wednesday, March 3 at 7 p.m.

Guest speaker the Rev. Brockman will speak on "Return to Zion," from Matthew 25:31-46.

The church is located at 1000 Fe Ave., El Cerrito.

SCHOOL GUIDE

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Letters

... from page 2
less than if we allow facilities to deteriorate further, construction costs to rise higher, and students to be hampered longer than necessary by crowded and inadequate buildings.
Albany's fine schools are a heritage that has been passed down to us by previous generations of citizens. My fellow board members and I are charged with the responsibility of preserving and protecting our future. Vote YES on Measure A.

Dianne McNenney, President
Albany Board of Education

return

Albany residents have known the value of good schools for generations. Jan. 31 article in the San Francisco Chronicle states as much as 6.1 percent increase in value over the last six months for homes in Albany. This is the reason that property values are increasing in Albany while surrounding areas are actually decreasing.

You value your community and want to maintain property values, it would make good financial sense to vote Yes on Measure A. For example, our home is assessed at approximately \$107,000 on the tax rolls, which is about the median for Albany homes. The year our tax bill would increase about \$36 for bond.

Maintain quality education and property values bond is a good investment.

Jim and JoAnn Connor

O.S.! Save our Schools! Vote "Yes" on Bond Measure A March 2. For years Albany residents have excelled in public education and today schools have won high acclaim and are the envy of neighboring communities. Blessed with an intelligent and supportive citizenry and dedicated teachers, students attain the highest ranks in the state in academic achievement. Our high school graduates are admitted to the finest colleges and universities in the country. For more than any other reason, people move to Albany to start their children in our schools. (Ask any real estate agent).

Today Albany schools face a crisis. There is a need for 14 additional classrooms, upgrading of schools to meet current health and safety standards, seismic strengthening of Albany High School, Cornell School, and new science and library facilities at Albany High School.

Measure A is designed to meet the crisis. It will be a modest 8.8 cents (on average) per thousand assessed valuation. The Albany School District's tax on our tax bill will be paid in full in 1994. I am purchasing my home here in 1958, I have been an active supporter of the schools and I have participated in every school bond drive. Never has a school board and bond committee asked for more basic bare-bones, no-frills bond measure. Just

Failure to pass Measure J, the Hillside Fire Station General Obligation Bonds, (up to \$10/year for homes assessed \$100,000 or less — 63 percent of homes in El Cerrito), will no doubt close the station which is structurally unsound. Response times could double. Without the Arlington station, fire fighters may not arrive to medical emergencies and fires for 10 minutes or more. The delay could mean the difference between life and death.

Failure to pass Measure L, the Public Safety Building General Obligation Bonds, (up to \$14/year for homes assessed \$100,000 or less — 63 percent of homes in El Cerrito), also compromises our safety. The building is 35 years old and has never had a major renovation. Both police and fire personnel are subjected to diesel fumes, asbestos and a dangerous patchwork of wiring and plumbing made worse by a leaky roof.

The public safety building's fire station is the third busiest in Contra Costa County, mainly due to medical

the necessities.

Our children are the hope of tomorrow; give them an even break; vote "Yes" on Measure A; we can do no less.

The schools are so bound in the history and character of Albany that it can be said that as Albany schools go, so goes Albany.

Dario Meniketti

Crucial to community

Editor:

All four ballot measures in El Cerrito's March 2, election are essential to the longterm viability of our community.

The issues facing El Cerrito voters have been studied in great detail by those who participated in Project Listen. The all-volunteer group of more than 30 citizens met every other week for two years. We don't need to waste time or money on further studies! We need to act now!

The taxes raised by these ballot measures make sure all of us receive a basic level of police and fire services. That's right, basic services. Money will be spent on projects as stated; it would be illegal to do otherwise. There is a cost of saying "Yes" on March 2. But can we afford to say "No"?

• Cost of saving "No" to Measures H, J, K and L:

Failure to pass Measure H, the 4 year Fire Safety Tax (\$57/year per single family home), forces us to live with the risk of a firestorm which feeds on brush and trees in the Hillside Natural Area. A firestorm can spread throughout the city, destroying homes and hurting businesses which serve El Cerrito.

Response times for fire and medical emergencies could be increased by overworked firefighters and worn out equipment. Fire engines need to be replaced to avoid a total breakdown at some point in the future.

Failure to pass Measure J, the Storm Drain Revenue Bonds (\$58/year per single family home), subjects the city to more lawsuits. Over \$250,000 has been spent out of the general fund to pay homeowners for damage from collapsed storm drains. Storm drains are collapsing every day, making a bad situation worse. Failure to correct known problem areas threatens insurance coverage, leaving the city to pay legal claims on its own.

Failure to pass Measure K, the Hillside Fire Station General Obligation Bonds, (up to \$10/year for homes assessed \$100,000 or less — 63 percent of homes in El Cerrito), will no doubt close the station which is structurally unsound. Response times could double. Without the Arlington station, fire fighters may not arrive to medical emergencies and fires for 10 minutes or more. The delay could mean the difference between life and death.

Failure to pass Measure L, the Public Safety Building General Obligation Bonds, (up to \$14/year for homes assessed \$100,000 or less — 63 percent of homes in El Cerrito), also compromises our safety. The building is 35 years old and has never had a major renovation. Both police and fire personnel are subjected to diesel fumes, asbestos and a dangerous patchwork of wiring and plumbing made worse by a leaky roof.

The public safety building's fire station is the third busiest in Contra Costa County, mainly due to medical

emergency calls. Sure, we could decide to consolidate fire services with other cities in the future — but that mainly affects personnel. The public safety building's location is vital for quick response times.

• Cost of saying "Yes" to Measure H, J, K and L:

The entire program as outlined above will cost approximately two out of three homeowners up to \$139/year in the first four years and up to \$82/year after year four when the Fire Safety Tax expires.

El Cerrito Property Values Threatened by "No"

Vote:

A "No" vote on Measures H, J, K and L will cut vital fire and police services and burden the city with a growing number of storm drain lawsuits. We will be hurt by lower property values and loss of essential city services making El Cerrito a less desirable place to live.

• Voting Yes for El Cerrito on March 2:

We can, and must, put our self-interests and common interests together and invest in our services and facilities now. Show you care about our future, vote "Yes" for El Cerrito on March 2!

Gina M. Brusatori

More specifics, please

Editor:

I found it interesting that the sample ballot for the March 2 election that the Albany School District is scheduling in order to engineer a \$31,600,000 expansion bond, contained no "con" views. Only "pro."

As was to be expected, the bond's interest burden will fall on every property owner in Albany. That is to say that it will be financed by an increase in the property tax rate. Yet not one of the proponents in the sample ballot was willing or able to supply a definite figure on that rate. Of course not.

At a time when the economic and employment slump in the state, and the amount of public bond default result in investor heightened anxiety and demand for higher rates of return, the sitting-duck property owners — many of whom are or will soon be on fixed income — may be in for a jolly ride. This comes in conjunction with President Clinton's planned increases in personal income and social security tax rates.

This proposed bond is mainly addressing physical envisioned demands. Now, Albany is really a small community that may add a few new residents annually, not many. Still the school population and its accompanying administration seem to keep swelling.

The feeling is prevalent that the Albany property owners have — and may increasingly continue to — subsidized the property owners and residents of surrounding communities that, legally or not, enroll their children here.

Wouldn't it be fair if before such weighty election took place, Albany residents were given some straightforward information regarding the proportion of local residents attending the Albany schools? And wouldn't it be proper if the voters had been given a few more specifics as to the

life and death.

Now is the time to spring clean your closets. Bring in your clothes & check out the new selection of consignment fashion.

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your closets with Liz Claiborne, Calvin Klein and Paul Stanley to name a few.

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building projected and the real tax implications of such indebtedness, in order to better judge of themselves rather than by School District decree? Alas, the time has almost run out for such input!

As we are all beginning to discover: an election itself is far from a guarantee that the democratic process is really at work.

M. Zavala

Save us money

Editor:

We have been residents of El Cerrito for a very long time. When we were looking for a home for our family of three children, we chose El Cerrito because it offered us so much — safety, police and fire protection, good schools, clean and friendly neighborhoods, parks, recreational activities, etc.

Our children are now grown. And we have seen the impact of our country's fiscal problems on our city. We have lived through disastrous events, such as the recent fire in the Berkeley/Oakland hills and the earthquake. We see the terrible cutbacks in education, recreation, and city services.

As retired citizens, we are on a limited income. We look at our city budget and know that we have eliminated the fat from city expenditures. We know that our country needs to undergo change in our priorities, especially at the federal and state levels, but these take time and political action.

Which leads us to our local ballot propositions. We must pass them. Proposition H is a four-year fire protection and prevention tax; Proposition J will repair our storm drains; Proposition K and L will stop the deterioration of the Arlington firehouse and main Public Safety building.

We urge the citizens of El Cerrito to pass these measures. It will not only protect us from fire dangers and storm drain collapse, but will save us money.

It's our people, our houses, our properties! Vote "Yes" on March 2.

Ernest and Chizu Iiyama

One of the best

Editor:

We would like to urge the Albany citizens to vote in favor of Measure A. The Albany School District Measure will allow for the selling of bonds to repair and improve existing buildings and construct new, much needed, school facilities.

You just need to visit any of our school sites to realize how important this issue is.

Next year we will pay off the Albany and Middle School bonds.

The schools have been governed through the years by prudent and responsible school boards and administrators and consequently Albany Unified School District has proven to be one of the finest school districts in California.

Let's keep it this way by voting Yes on Measure A.

Jean and Carla Tenret

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Cross Talk

Continued from front page

1,945 calls last year; of those, 65 percent were medical calls, he said.

Cummerford also said that 86 percent of those calls were made west of Navellier Street. The tax, he said, is "not just catering to the hill area."

For each of the measures, Kosel asked her guests to address opposing arguments.

Cummerford spoke to the less-costly fire hazard abatement carried on by UC-Berkeley. The reason for that, he said, was that much donated labor was used, Lawrence Lab firefighters — with less calls to make — oversaw the operation, and no expensive environmental review study was necessary.

Brusatori challenged the idea that the tax benefits only hill neighborhoods by referring to the medical emergency and fire danger aspects they already addressed. She also said that the argument that Insurance Services Office ratings have gone up for the department are not applicable, since they do not take medical calls into consideration and do include help obtained from joint response agreements with Richmond and Kensington.

Kosel herself addressed the joint response issue.

"Who wants to make a deal with us if we can't carry the load?" she asked. "(Joint response) cannot be a one-side affair."

Brusatori also spoke to the question of how much of the city's budget is devoted to public safety.

She said that opponents' estimate of 40 percent is based on the entire package of city's expenditures.

The 85 percent figure used by supporters of the tax is based on the city's discretionary budget.

That figure is about 7-1/2 million dollars, she said, after Redevelopment Agency funds and monies for mandated programs are removed.

Measure J will pay for about half the improvements recommended by an engineering study commissioned by the city.

The cost would be about \$58 per parcel.

Metal storm drains were installed in El Cerrito before its incorporation, said Cummerford — "No one even new where they were."

"They are now rusting, corroding and collapsing — sometimes in people's yards," he said.

According to Cummerford, deterioration of the drains has led to city liability, with \$200,000 in paid claims over the last three years.

Arguments against the measure have been withdrawn, after members of the opposition group, the Citizens Alliance for El Cerrito, were assured by the city council that any leftover funds would be reserved for Phase II work on the storm drains and would not be absorbed into the city's general fund.

Measure K would fund the construction of a new Hillside Fire Station.

Sign

Continued from front page

Gent said later that she was appalled at the action but also that she was disturbed at one statement made by a proponent "putting everyone who doesn't agree together into the same bag," thus perhaps implicating involvement by anyone opposing the measures. "In a city like El Cerrito," she said, "two groups can be of different opinions and not be in opposition."

One bottom-line point for Gent

is her belief that the city manager and City Council look to Project Listen recommendations inappropriately, as if they reflect, "this is what the city of El Cerrito wants."

In terms of the new tax proposals, Gent said any more payments can be very scary, for example, to a widow on a fixed income who can barely afford taxes now.

As far as the ballot measures are concerned, Gent said that the group

was formed prior to their placement on the ballot, with more general priorities.

What the Alliance wanted was to get the issues out before the people for a vote, she said. A second priority was then to raise questions that deserved consideration.

"We only stated some issues and put them out there for the people to look at and then decide on their own," she said.

time," he was told.

Picciotto said that with his detention came a warning that next time he would be put on work detail and that after that, suspension might well follow.

"I suppose it's just to stop the five or ten people causing a lot of trouble, but I think it decreases the feeling of the school as a place of learning," he said. "It's almost like an authoritarian environment where we concentrate more on what liberties are being taken away than on what we're there to learn."

Picciotto is a straight-A student.

According to teacher Michelle Melhorn, teachers at the high school did not have input into the decision to lock doors but are generally sup-

portive. She said, however, that sometimes decisions from the top down are easier, since it insures greater uniformity.

Both Mehron and Joan Cone have long had a workable tardy policy, however. If a student is late for any reason — as often happens in first period, Mehron said, they receive 15 minutes detention after school. A stated classroom policy, it never has to be discussed and does not affect the student's grade in any way.

"I let them know I still love them," said Cone at last fall's Open House. "They just have to do the time."

Melhorn said, however, that chronic tardies seemed to be doing

a little better with the lunchtime lockout. She attributed its effectiveness to "humiliation."

Principal Paul Daniels said the lockout was instituted several weeks prior to the closure as something of an experiment to see what kinds needed to be worked out. He hopes it will discourage students from leaving campus.

He also said that the spring closure itself is something of a test period for the future.

Many new amenities will be ready to go by the third, he said, including more benches for eating and more food vendors for lunch purchases.

Not everything that will be needed eventually will be initiated

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SPORTS

February 25, 1993 HILLS PUBLICATIONS Page 13



ANTHONY P. KUTTNER

Ready gone

Unsettled. That's what one meteorologist called the trend's weather. Rain and sun, at the same time, that's what it's been going lately.

Unsettled is the best way to describe the coaching situation at Golden Bear fans are clouded over because it's never good to have a coach in the middle of the sun, even if the guy needs to. And for my money, Lou Campanelli needed to go.

It's not that Cal should have a better record than its 10-7 when Lou was shown the door, although that's almost true enough.

And it's not that Lou swore at players, although that, too, is just reason enough.

But Lou needed to go because, once, he was already gone. Shortly before Cal AD Bob Krahn bid Lou adieu, the Golden Bears blew a game they did have won.

Campanelli's post-game sense? The players won't listen to those are the words of a coach who is already gone, and Bockrath right to make it official as possible.

At the same time, even though season is in disarray, Golden fans can see the sunshine in future.

Now, I don't care if Cal goes 0-25, as long as the two losses are to Arizona, or 2-25, as long as the wins are against Stanford. But I'm excited about the opportunity it's to do something special with this coaching job.

The good rumor flying around town Nelson (or is it Donnnaussonnnnn?) keeping a team parking pass, but as head coach rather than as as Don's assistant with the others.

Another bit of hot gossip has Thompson leaving his sweet Georgetown and taking at Cal.

Other currently rumored candidates include every man who worked for Lute Olson at UCLA, which is where Bockrath tied the ropes as an assistant before coming to Berkeley. All Arizona alumni, I big Lute, but I'd rather not one of his protégés here. Too familiar with the system, and with the Cal, they could most figure a way to beat me.

Besides, I think the Golden could do better.

I hope they don't go with me. I have nothing against the personally, and I believe that half the coach his old man will be twice as good as most coaches around, but again, I Cal could do better.

Thompson wouldn't be a bad choice. He's proven that he can. I can only imagine how strong Cal would be with one of his trademark big plays receiving passes in the from Jason Kidd.

Thompson has also proven that he can win. He's been to the Final a few times, and won the once.

He has also shown that he can in the preseason, and that's what I don't want him here.

While at Georgetown, has prepared the Hoyas for tough Big East campaigns scheduling such opponents as St. Louis and Champlain. His league scheduling philosophy is to be "If you have the chance to outscore us for even one, we don't want to see

we only imagine a Cal team schedule with Jason at the helm. There'll be games against Mills, Laney and Corpus Christi eighth (don't laugh — they're in the playoffs).

See GONE, next page

De La Salle BVAL hoop winners; BHS heads for playoffs

By Peter Mentor

The big game for the Bay Valley Athletic League boys' basketball title was a big letdown for Berkeley as the Yellowjackets fell 52-45 to De La Salle in front of a roaring home crowd in Berkeley Friday night.

The Yellowjackets had a shot at tying the Spartans for first place in the league if they won, but they didn't take advantage of the many chances offered by their pressure defense during the game. Berkeley finished at 11-3 league, 17-7 overall for second place, while De La Salle climbed to 13-1 league, 20-3 overall for its fourth consecutive league championship.

Berkeley was not playing its best basketball, but neither was De La Salle. The Spartans had the lead from the start and never trailed in the game. The Yellowjackets came close at times, pulling within four points as late as 2:26 in the fourth quarter with two chances to tie it up, but they were not hitting the inside shots and never managed to get the lead.

"We missed too many shots," said Berkeley head coach Jesse Gossett. "We shot 34 percent in-

Nathan Burks made a statement on his driving layup for two plus a foul, which he converted for a three-point play. Jahari Tracy hit back-to-back hoops off an inside shot and a rebound, and a fast break ended with a layup by Rowe that evened the score 15-15 at 5:15 in the second quarter.

De La Salle senior Richard Thomas put the Spartans back in front, but Burks stole the ball and slammed a rim-rattling dunk to tie it again at 17 and get the mostly-Berkeley fans screaming with joy.

See BERKELEY, next page

Cougars will appear in Power Division playoffs

By Peter Mentor

When the East Shore Athletic League boys' basketball season began Albany head coach Doug Kagawa wasn't sure what his young team could do in a league with the likes of St. Mary's, Bishop O'Dowd and St. Joseph.

The Cougars reached above expectations finishing 5-9 in the league, 7-19 overall and making it into the East Shore Athletic League Power Division playoffs.

Albany was scheduled for a opening round game against St. Elizabeth on Wednesday in a rematch of last year's finals. Last year the finals were held at the Oakland Coliseum Arena and the Cougars were thrilled just to play on the same floor as the Warriors.

St. Elizabeth won that game and both teams entered the North Coast Section playoffs.

See COUGARS, next page



Kenyatta Rowe launched scoring action for the Jackets

Jeff Lindquist

EC coach to bid for hoop playoff

By Peter Mentor

El Cerrito head coach Chris Huber was watching St. Elizabeth play Bishop O'Dowd last Saturday, one day after his team completed its 19th win of the season with a 89-69 victory over Pinole Valley.

The Gauchos finished at 9-5 in the Bay Valley Athletic League, 19-7 overall and are anticipating a berth in the North

Coast Section Division II playoffs. The seeding meeting is this Sunday at Dublin High in Pleasanton and Huber was confident his team would be among those, but he wouldn't say for sure.

"We'll find out on Sunday for the playoff situation," said Huber. "Eight to 10 teams vie for a spot."

Eight Division II teams make the NCS playoffs. Among those teams trying to get in are El Cerrito,

St. Elizabeth, Monte Vista, San Ramon, Amador Valley, Pittsburg, Moreau, Mission San Jose and Mt. Eden.

Scouting teams and looking at records is what coaches do before the seeding meeting and the playoffs. Teams that did not win their league championship must apply for an at-large bid. Many Division II teams never have a

See GAUCHOS, next page

Injury hampers Panther final

High-scorer loses footing in muddy home field game

By Peter Mentor

St. Mary's had a busy week in the East Shore Athletic League playoffs, winning a double-overtime shootout 4-2 against Bishop O'Dowd in the semifinals in Oakland on Wednesday and losing 2-1 in the rain-soaked finals at home against Richmond on Thursday.

It was the first appearance ever for St. Mary's in the ESAL finals and win or lose it guaranteed the Panthers a spot in the North Coast Section playoffs, which open tonight. St. Mary's plays in the opening round against James Logan at James Logan High at 6 p.m.

Playing back-to-back games last week was hard on the Panthers, but the hardest part was losing their star striker and high scorer Khalil Kirtman in the first half against Richmond.

The championship game was played in the rain on the muddy St. Mary's field. Kirtman, the Panthers' quick-footed forward, got a perfect lead pass from one of his defensemen for a break-away. The ball landed just in front of Kirtman, who stretched to reach it and slipped in the mud.

Kirtman fell to the ground holding his leg and didn't get up. The officials stopped the game when the Panthers regained control of the

ball and the injured Kirtman was helped off the field and taken to the hospital with a dislocated knee. He sustained the same injury while playing football as the team's kicker, causing him to miss the championship game two seasons ago at the Oakland Coliseum.

After that it was an up-hill battle for St. Mary's. The wind was blowing hard towards the Panther goal for the first half and without their fastest forward their run-and-gun offense was lacking the gun. Richmond was pressing on offense and had a sure goal taken away when St. Mary's freshman Seth Altshuler headed the ball away just before it was about to score.

Oscar Lizardo hit a rocket shot that was saved by Panther goalie Trent Davalos as time wound down in the first half.

The Oilers received a corner kick from the right side and Ernesto Contreras blasted a shot that cruised two feet from the ground and curved into the goal for an unassisted score with three minutes to go.

St. Mary's had a prime opportunity nipped by an offsides call and the first half ended on a near miss by Richmond. The teams left the field for the comfort of warm, dry shelter as the rain started to pour ferociously and the Oilers up

1-0. The second half started with Richmond getting three shots that sailed wide or high of the net. A fourth shot looked like it was going in when a Richmond player got in front and headed the ball up, where it bounced off the top of the crossbar and out.

The Oilers came down the left side of the field and Contreras broke lose, firing with his left foot into the net for a 2-0 Richmond lead. Contreras had lifted three previous shots over the net with his left foot, but this shot stayed down and gave the Oilers a big advantage. "I told him all season not to kick with his left foot," said Richmond head coach John Velho with a smile.

St. Mary's would need something big to get back in the game without their top scorer and a field slippery field.

Panther teammates Jonevyn Hornsby and Jose Ponce had connected with passes all day and they mounted an offense threat. Ponce shot wide right from the left on one play. Finally Hornsby got free and booted in a goal for the Panthers, cutting the lead to one and giving St. Mary's a new life.

St. Mary's had been in this situation before against Richmond and come back from a 2-0 deficit to win the game. The Panthers tried to

See PANTHERS, next page



Play was rough and muddy in O'Dowd finals game

Journey to the core of Russia

Kirillova takes you deeply into the heart of her subjects

Ariel Parkinson

For all the inevitable stereotypes of the Soviet Union — Evil Empire, Gulag, Anna in the Drawing Room, Raskolnikov Descending the Stairs, Julia Kirillova's project "Women Survive" is a salient corrective.

The project is a series of ceramic sculptures, one figure for each of the 15 republics of the ex-Soviet Union. The regions and the figures are diverse; "Ritual Dancer" from Yakutia, an undeveloped area rich in minerals in the far east; "Nurturing Woman" from the fertile Ukraine; "Mermaid Woman" from progressive, independent Georgia.

"Ritual Dancer" is a dark, almost savage figure. The flat wide face in a crude dress is vertically distorted, as in a child's drawing, long strong legs. She is a flat plane with two claspers. Stains of translucent vermilion glint on the dark number of the clay oxide surface.

"Nurturing Woman" has the squat, exaggerated pear shape of traditional milk jug of Ukraine. Her breast is a fertility symbol. Her "breast" is a finely nuanced toning of deep tans scratched with a lathe of thin lines and set against the rounded gray-brown of arms, neck, head and feet.

The prostrate "Mermaid Woman" with her full drooping breasts is a city dweller. Belly exposed on one side of the central axis of the figure, buttocks on the other, sandalled feet, tight skirt, hair, glitter — from Latvia to Los Angeles she is the eternal comédiante, rider of a million buses, sex in a million cafes.

The factor that ties these works together is an unerring sense of self, the plastic, permeable skin that becomes rigid and vivified in fire, essentially suitable vessels. Glazes are mineral oxides on special earths.

All Kirillova's figures are related to the ancient and persistent forms of artifacts in clay. Surface and color evoke the lands in which they come. They are physically convincing.

Second common factor is the empathy, learning and wit with which she approaches her subjects: Mermaid, Yakutia, Gypsy woman, her peasants and villagers in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia,

Moldavia each embody and reflect specific sets of customs, habits, legends, situations.

Before printing, a major function of visual art was to tell a story, to convey information. These figures, with the brief, well-written comments, are deeply informative. Kirillova characterizes women as the "backbone of society, servants to kings, emotional springs, the brains, energy, child-bearers and feeders of the nation...."

An hour with her clay figures gives a bright, telling and articulated context to the photographs of tight-lipped shapeless people on balconies and podiums, or standing in long lines. You begin to know her subject matter. You begin to know a country and its earth.

This is a good show, and an important show. For the past 20 years almost every gallery offering of a contemporary artist has contained just one work. The work is divided into 10 pieces or 100 pieces. In concept and in spiritual expenditure it is one work.

In the circle of communication what goes in is what comes out, and the most devout attention — if it is also honest — cannot elicit any more. The exhibition is a walk-through.

But one primary function of art is discovery. The artist's involvement with his work — material and subject — is a means of moving deeply into some aspect of reality. He goes where he has never been before. If he is successful, he takes you with him. The process is recovered in the work.

Kirillova has journeyed into the central substance of each of her characters and found the appropriate formal means to render it. Her discoveries, her "expense of spirit" in 10 different and related figures in 10 different and related forms (the 15-work project is not yet complete) has made the little gallery at 5301 Broadway large and radiant. Viewing her sculpture is an experience, in art and life.

"Women Survive: Ceramic Sculptures by Julia Kirillova" is at the Art Store Gallery, 5301 Broadway, Oakland through March 12; phone: 658-2787.

Talks by Julia Kirillova are scheduled at the Art Store Gallery at noon on March 10, and at Turn of the Century Fine Arts, 2518 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley, at noon on March 12.

Ariel Parkinson is a Berkeley-based painter and theater designer whose work has been the subject of exhibitions from California to Europe for the past 40 years.



Julia Kirillova with 'Nurturing Woman,' representing the Ukraine (1993)



Right: 'Mermaid Woman,' representing Latvia (1992); Left: 'Ritual Dancer,' representing Yakutia (1992). All three are clay with oxide glazes. (Photographs by Augusta Huggins Meyers)



East Bay Events This Week

Dance Series features three choreographers

The Bay Area Dance Series continues this weekend with works by three emerging women choreographers — Andrea Vonny Lee, Catherine Sharpe and Pearl Ubungen.

Ubungen will present *Warrior*, a piece based on the autobiography and poems of Assata Shakur, a woman who spent time in American prisons before escaping and finding refuge in Canada. Sharpe presents her "playful tragicomedy" *Hard Sciences*, to a score by Dred Scott. Ubungen will premiere *Social Science*, a collaboration with composer-percussionist Randy Sharp. The piece "explores symmetry and improvisation among musicians and one dancer."

Ubungen will also premiere a new ensemble work, *Waltz for Pinay*, a work about the struggle of Filipino immigrants.

Performances are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sunday at 3 p.m. at the Laney College Theatre, 900 Fallon St. (at Ninth Street) in Oakland. Tickets are \$14 at the door (\$12 in advance), with discounts for seniors, children and Laney students. They can be bought at MTC outlets (762-BASS). For more information, call 889-9500.

American Bach Soloists sing motets

The American Bach Soloists will perform Bach's motets I, III and music by Lotti. Soloists are soprano Judith Nelson, alto Mario, tenor Jeffrey Thomas and bass James Weaver. The concert is Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Dana Street, Berkeley. Tickets are \$13 to \$18. Phone: 435-5235.



Perry Salit, Jeff Watta Ribas, Diane Shields, Catherine Sharpe, Katie Moremen and (not pictured) Jessica Lutes will perform Sharpe's dance/play 'Hard Sciences' this weekend as part of the Bay Area Dance Series (see item at left).

Elizabeth Gorick



Andrea Vonny Lee, left, and Awana-Nzingha Harris perform in the Bay Area Dance Series this weekend (see item this page).

OEB Symphony plays Ravel, Prokofiev

The Oakland East Bay Symphony and Clipper Erickson perform Ravel's Piano Concerto in G Major on Saturday. The rest of the program is Prokofiev's Symphony No. 7, de Falla's *Three-Cornered Hat* Suite No. 2 and Marco Beltrami's *La Città Decadente* (1991). The concert is at 8 p.m. at the Calvin Simmons Theatre in the Henry J. Kaiser Convention Center, 10 10th St., Oakland. Tickets are \$10 to \$35; call 465-6400 for reservations.

Storyteller at Museum of Children's Art

Joe Ben Izzy, the Traveling Storyteller, appears Sunday at 10:30 at MOCHA, 560 Second St. (across from Cost Plus), Oakland. Admission is \$5 for kids; adults get in free. Phone: 465-8770.

More events

■ East Bay Events This Week



Performance artist Grace Lin appears in 'Three Riddles' with the Augustino Dance Company this Friday, Saturday and Sunday at 8 p.m. at Open Arts Circle, 530 E. Eighth St. (at Sixth Avenue), Oakland. 'Three Riddles' is based on the Chinese custom (seen in the opera 'Turandot') of discouraging unwanted suitors by giving them riddles. The dance company celebrates the diverse cultural roots and 'uprootedness' of American life. Tickets are \$9; call 524-6162 for reservations.

Oakland Ensemble Theatre presents 'Dark Cowgirls and Prairie Queens'

Oakland Ensemble Theatre presents *Dark Cowgirls and Prairie Queens*, written by Linda Parris-Bailey (who is also assistant director) and directed by Tom Bullard. The play dramatizes the lives of seven African-American women who trailblazed in the Old West between 1830 and 1890: "Black Mary," who drove stagecoaches; Grandma Biddy Mason, who walked from slavery in Mississippi to freedom in California; sculptor Edmonia "Wildfire" Lewis; and others.

The play opens tonight and runs Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m., with matines at 2 p.m. Saturdays and 3 p.m. Sundays, through March 7, at the Alice Arts Center, 1428 Alice St. (near 14th Street) in downtown Oakland. Tickets are \$11 to \$25; phone: 763-7774.

Kensington Symphony plays Dvorak, Kodaly, Leopold Mozart

Lloyd Elliott leads the Kensington Symphony in the overture to Beethoven's *Fidelio*, Leopold Mozart's Trumpet Concerto, Kodaly's *Maresek Dances* and Dvorak's Symphony No. 8 in G Major. Dana Kemp plays the trumpet in the Mozart. There will also be a performance of a piece by the winner of the symphony's new composition competition, to be announced at the concert.

There are two performances: Friday at the Contra Costa College Performing Arts Center, in San Pablo, and Saturday at the First Unitarian Church, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington, both at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5. For more information, call 841-6801.



Trumpeter Dana Kemp

Latino performance art: Gerardo Navarro

Live From the Mexican Museum presents Gerardo Navarro and the Edge of the Word Ensemble in *The Urban Village of the Mind*. Navarro, a "border beat poet" active both in the United States and in Latin America, performs to music by Edge of the Word Ensemble.

The performances include "I Miss You," which uses a letter to conjure the memory of a lost lover through the metaphor of a woman too busy for romance, and "I Am a Man," which brings the male psychosexual being into a post-machismo experience.

The performances are Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Berkeley Art Center, 1275 Walnut St. (at Live Oak Park), Berkeley. Admission is \$6. Call 644-6893 for more information.



The Aurora String Quartet, composed of members of the San Francisco Orchestra, plays Sunday at Berkeley's Maybick Recital Hall, 1537 Euclid Ave. The program is Mozart's Quartet in B-Flat Major, K. 458; Schubert's Quartet No. 15 in G Major, Op. 161; and David Macbride's *Two Stories*, a work commissioned for the Aurora. The concert is at 4 p.m.; tickets are \$15. Call 848-3228 for reservations.

Capturing America's hell-bent spirit

■ For Oakland Ballet, America is on the go—westward or somewhere. By Renee Renouf

The Bay Area Dance Series (BADS) at Laney College kicked off Feb. 1 with the Talking Dance Project of the Ellen Webb Foundation.

Dance

dation. The Talking Dance Project, which focuses on the work of a choreographer, this time featured an appearance of Washington-based Liz Lerman.

Talking Dance Project

Liz Lerman has evolved not only a multicultural but a multidimensional emphasis, unique for an American-based company within the U.S. professional performing dance arena.

Professional dance life in non-Western cultures usually goes on within the continuity of a cultural enclave, embracing the oldest to the toddler.

Lerman provides a cogent statement how the nuclear family model of industrialized nations truncates the emotional resources of adult as well as child, impoverishing the human wellsprings and full experience of life's seasons.

When Lerman spoke of hunting for the senior citizen community, the conceptual grooves of modern social organization sprang up like barricades as perilous to humanity as coils of barbed wire.

Oakland Ballet

On Feb. 12 Oakland Ballet returned to the Paramount Theater for a three-performance run of two venerable pieces of dance theater plus a little ballet — to Luigi Boccherini's music — created by Betsy Erickson, former ballet mistress for the company.

The dance theater pieces were Eugene Loring's *Billy the Kid* (1938) and William Christensen's *Nothin' Doin' Bar* (1950) to Mil-



Ron Thiele is Pat Garrett in Oakland Ballet's revival of Eugene Loring's 'Billy the Kid.'

haud's *Le Boeuf sur le Toit*.

The latter ballet, a romp celebrating speakeasy sleaze, was set by Christensen himself, an alert, mellow man in his early 90s who was around to take a bow after the first performance.

Billy the Kid was set by Eugene Loring on Oakland with Patrice Whiteside as Billy's Mother and Sweetheart and David McNaughton as Billy. The company has had one or two subsequent *Billy*'s, and Gregg Engle has taken over Ron Thiele's role as Pat Garrett.

Garrett was originally danced by the late Lew Christensen with Loring as Billy, when both were affiliated with Ballet Caravan in the last several years of the '30s.

The work remains gripping, and the Oakland dancers' performance combine earnestness, respect and pleasure. They convey texture and dimension and make one proud an American legend is translatable to the stage.

For prologue Loring employs an energetic frieze of human activity — moving, struggling chain across the stage of pioneers,

ground-breakers and herders — repeated at the ballet's close.

He provided stylized promenades for the three dance hall girls, elegant floozies depicted by Cynthia Chin, Joy Gim and Natalia Fremin, with slow-motion fight over one of them as provocation for the shooting death of Billy's mother. When Billy is later shot, the native women provide another frieze, that of an eternal Pieta.

Joral Schmalie is a convincing Billy, revealing distorted hunger, anger and the anguished psychology behind the restless young killer. Schmalie's last ride as Billy, his ritual disrobing and the dream pas de deux with Billy's sweetheart, danced with an aware and fated tenderness by Jill Taylor, were particularly poignant.

Gregg Engle as Pat Garrett made a perfect foil, the tall, lean American plainsman translated to the American Southwest. Michael Lowe now fits the many guises of Alias like a seamless flow.

There scarcely could be a stronger contrast in the American psyche or in thematic material

than the speakeasy atmosphere Christensen's *Nothin' Doin' Bar*.

Clearly a relic of Christensen's knowledge of night life in cities during the last glory days of vaudeville, the ballet gives an excellent glimpse of the American focus on fun, as thorough in its own way as the all-out and struggle westward.

Both atmospheres have a little undercurrent of loneliness in the collective activity, but Christensen aura is light-hearted with an urban cleverness.

Michael Lowe's portmanteau Weasel, with his coat front sealing kirsch for sale; Joral Schmalie as Yo-Yo, the dog (more a boy); Mario Alonso-Puncho; the Rich Couple of Thiele and Joy Gim — the flesh out the stock cast of characters who peopled that decade of frenetic gaiety and excess under the law.

Back to back, the two ballets made an implicit statement about the hell-bent energy of Americans heading single-mindedly in direction, whatever direction might be at the moment.

world of musical magic seemed to leave even the critics stunned by their own performance.

George Thomson conducted the Faure with economical movements and poise, the Tchaikovsky with controlled fire. His baton was always precise.

At intermission, I sought violinist Edgar Braun to fill me in on details. Braun himself conducts the San Francisco Chamber Orchestra.

Prometheus, he said, has been playing for over 30 years and sponsored by Merritt College. Thomson is a Ph.D. candidate at UC-Berkeley, plays both piano and viola, and Braun himself regales you with the inside story on Tartini.

"You won't find a professor within a mile of this orchestra," said Braun, who devotes all his spare time to music. Then he divulged the sort of inside scoop that Mike Wallace would have liked: "If you heard the dress rehearsal, you would have thought there was no hope." A stunning revelation considering the performance.

Finally — there was George Thomson, whom LeJeune describes as "slightly bent, shabby and grizzled, untalkative, timid, ungracious in manner and truly good." But I see that I am out of space.

Prometheus Orchestra takes flight

By Rocky Leplin

As I entered the John Muir School for a Valentine's Day performance by the Prometheus Symphony Orchestra, I was struck with curiosity. Where was the audience? Musicians were everywhere, and I searched with mounting anxiety for someone dressed like me.

One of the benefits of attending free concerts is the mingle factor. Like their local competitors, the musicians of the Prometheus entertain no delusions of being too lofty to slum with their fans. Only where? — and then they arrived.

As I began pouring over Loren LeJeune's program notes, I realized with a stab of professional jealousy that they sparkled with such wit that it may not be in my interest to mention them.

The program's four pieces included two by composers neither of whom get even a footnote in D.J. Grout's epic *History of Western Music*, though they are far from unknown. These were Cimarosa, a composer of opera buffa, and Karl Goldmark, a Romantic intimate of Brahms — a fact that speaks volumes for Brahms' generosity.

The concert began with Cimarosa's overture to *The Secret Marriage* and ended with Goldmark's *Rustic Wedding Symphony*. In between were Faure's incidental music to *Pelleas et Melisande* and Tchaikovsky's overture-fantasy, *Romeo and Juliet*.

As the music ensued, I noted two traits of the amateur Orchestra. One is that the woodwinds are always pitch-perfect, and the other is that the violins couldn't agree on when to bow if their day jobs depended on it.

No matter: trait No. 3 is that, given inspired music, a collective spirit will well up from all but the feeblest of bands, overpowering questionable technique and providing a performance so gripping that calling attention to inadequacies is not only mean-spirited, but downright annoying, and you won't find me doing it until we get to the Goldmark.

Cimarosa's vigorous overture is in the high classical tradition. The equal of Haydn's best scherzos, it suggests that if he hadn't concentrated on comic opera he might have been mentioned by Grout. Prometheus brought it to life with a dynamic performance.

(The complete opera will be

performed by the Berkeley Opera later this year.)

Faure's music for *Pelleas et Melisande* is of great subtlety. Its four movements are replete with lush harmonies and lyric melodies whose waters, occasionally turbid when flowing through the violins, were otherwise paddled with tenderness and refinement.

Keith Sklower's oboe themes had that spicy sweetness that composers call upon time and again to awaken sleepers. Harpist Carla Gee and substitute flutist Reiko Kubota paired up for a sensitive rendition of Faure's best-loved theme.

Another famous theme is the highlight of Tchaikovsky's *Romeo and Juliet* Overture. I'm not bonkers over Tchaikovsky, but I must beg to differ with LeJeune's comment that some "enjoy wallowing in its shameless sentimentality."

On the contrary, this work washes sentimentality down a storm drain in a deluge of passion so strong that an unmoved heart badly needs a transplant.

Spinning out streams of 16th notes, Prometheus did more than pull off a wild ride; it put us in the dog sled and plunged into a

to, from and with the community

THE 1993 BAY AREA DANCE SERIES

THIS WEEK



Andrea Vonny Lee, Catherine Sharpe, Pearl Ubungen
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East Bay Events This Week — continued



Musical about saving the salmon

Queen Salmon is a musical comedy about the true-to-life, heroic and comic efforts of people living in a remote California valley to save their salmon run from extinction. "Loggers and hippies, backpackers and cowboys, biologists and businessmen learn to overcome their differences and work together for this common cause." The comedy plays Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8 p.m. this week and next, with 3 p.m. matinees on Sundays (Feb. 28, March 7) at the Julia Morgan Theater, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$8 to \$12; call 84-JULIA for tickets.

UC-Berkeley's Lawrence Moe plays the Spanish organ

The UC-Berkeley Department of Music presents the renowned organist (and longtime faculty member) **Lawrence Moe** in a program on the Spanish organ. He'll play music of Spain and Italy, featuring Frescobaldi. The free concert is at 3 p.m. Sunday at the Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary Chapel, at the top of Marin Avenue in Berkeley. For more information, call 642-4864.

New chamber ensemble debuts

The **Hesperian Ensemble** is a new chamber orchestra organized by conductors **Ruth Charloff** and **Michael Shahani**. It debuts at 4 p.m. Sunday at the Church of St. Joseph the Worker, 1640 Addison St., Berkeley. The program consists of the West Coast premiere of Peter Maxwell Davies' *First Fantasia on an 'In Nomine'* of John Taverner, Mendelssohn's Symphony No. 4 ("Italian"), Mozart's Symphony No. 36 ("Linz") and the overture to Jule Styne's *Gypsy*. Tickets: \$4 to \$6.

Two concerts of Jewish music from medieval Spain

Sephardic Songs of Medieval Spain

The San Francisco Early Music Society presents "Jewels of the Sephardim: Songs of Medieval Spain," with vocalist **Lauren Pomerantz**; **Shira Kammen**, vielle; **Kit Higginson**, recorder; and **Peter Maund**, percussion. Musical pictures of medieval Spain in the form of life-cycle celebrations, ballads, devotional and love songs. The concert is Saturday at 8 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, Duran and Dana, Berkeley, repeated Sunday at 7:30 p.m. at Calvary Presbyterian Church in San Francisco. Tickets are \$7 to \$14. Phone: 528-1725.

Ladino-Moroccan music at BRJCC

The Berkeley Richmond Jewish Community Center presents the group **Gerineldo** in a concert of Ladino-Moroccan music. Ethnomusicologist **Judith Cohen** and three Moroccan-born musicians sing Renaissance tunes from Morocco, Turkey, Greece and Egypt in the language of medieval Spain. The concert is Saturday at 8 p.m. at the center, 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. Tickets are \$12 to \$15. There's also a matinee next Tuesday at 1 p.m. (tickets \$4 to \$6), with a children's concert that same afternoon at 4 p.m. (tickets \$1 to \$2). Phone: 848-0237.

Orlando de Lassus' St. Matthew Passion

MusicSources, the Center for Historically Informed Performance, presents the area premiere of the *St. Matthew Passion* by 16th-century composer Orlando de Lassus. **Paul Elliott** sings the Evangelist, **Paul Hillier** sings Christus. The **Theatre of Voices** ensemble joins them. Saturday at 8 p.m. at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda, Berkeley. Tickets are \$12 to \$15. For reservations, call 528-1685.

Kids at Heart — The trio Golden Bough (Margie Butler, left, Lee Brown and Paul Espinoza) celebrate the release of their new album "Kids at Heart" with an appearance at Berkeley's eight and Salvage, 1111 Addison, at 8:30 p.m. Friday. The concert features songs from the new album and from their previous albums. The group specializes in traditional Celtic tunes as well as their own compositions—aimed at listeners of all ages. Families are encouraged to attend together. The club's phone is 548-1761.

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RED SNAPPER CATFISH
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WORD OF MOUTH

By John McNulty

Lakeshore Ave., Oakland; 834-4308). Four panini specials are featured daily and a variety of grilled sandwiches, including red pepper and artichoke choices, give lunch customers reason to return often.

Soft lights, post-modern decor and light classical and modern jazz in the background create a warm atmosphere at Filippo's (5356 College Ave., Oakland, between BART and Broadway; 652-8540)—a little bit of North Beach in the Rockridge district of Oakland. Enjoy a Focaccia sandwich accompanied by espresso or premium beer or wine.

Whoops! Last week our Word of Mouth column led off with a perfectly befuddling comment about Colors Cafe-Rotisserie (5900 Hollis St., Emeryville, near Chalkers; parking; 655-7100). WoM should have read "No need to bring your own Crayolas to Colors" but it came out "carryalls." The wonders of unbridled spell check! WoM does recognize winning spit-roasted chicken, however. The fettucini with wild mushrooms is a winner here too. Breakfast, lunch, weekend brunch and dinner at Colors, where crayons are provided. Tastes in many colors too.

California Topless Pizza (3814 Piedmont Ave., Oakland; 450-0100, FAX 450-0101) owner Geoff Deetz, aglow after a series of very favorable critical reviews and a lot of all-important customer praise, just featured a pre-Lenten Cajun food week. Hope you didn't miss it!

New in Montclair is Red Boy Pizza (2060 Mountain Blvd., Montclair District; 339-3113), which opened earlier this month. Specializing in prize-winning pizza recipes, and popular in Marin, this is the restaurant's first East Bay outlet. They serve lunches and dinners.

Full size salads for lunch are part of the bill of fare at

Pronto Espresso (3306

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Colors Cafe-Rotisserie (5900 Hollis St., Emeryville 655-7100)

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February 23/25, 1993

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In Acquiring Northern California Manufacturing or Distribution business with a potential for growth, the business should require overall marketing management and a unique product position.

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See Clip 'n Go
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count prices on custom Sunflex mini-blinds
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\$129 Bed, \$299 Sofa with loveseat, \$399
Twin, \$228 Chest beds, bedroom sets, ro-
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hand woven Pakistani 6x9' carpet
\$940

4 tweaseat, matching chair, Three months
from condo display Cost \$1195 sell \$395
4/27

2 sofa, ottoman, move to smaller
apt. Still beautiful bargains! Offers okay
82-9335

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ly \$1000, yours for \$450. 658-6998

PATIO, designer, chair/ ottoman, three
seats \$300 835-4566

7' American oriental rug, 12x18, like
Sacrifice \$900 (Must sell - moving)
7/20

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\$1200 or best offer. 531-9742

MUST sell almost new refrigerator,
dryer, and some furniture 547-0249

5 fine 4 poster country style queen size
beds if interested please call 524-3032

Emerald green, 11x14 sheq Must sell
on condition Asthmatic child, Donna \$50
550

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WASHER- Maytag full size portable, 5
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NATIONAL seashore: Indian Village, beaches,
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Inverness Park Place 415-663-9425

1/25 available. Antique after table (teak) and
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SHARED House in Montclair, Glenview, Upper
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am a thoughtful, Consultant. Water, 43 who
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709 Alameda
Alameda

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beveled glass, tall ceilings, fireplace, clawfoot tub,
large closets, tub, ready, dishwasher. Private
entry. Laundry facilities. Additional storage avail-
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For Rent

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725 BERKELEY 2 bedroom triplex, hardwood
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Homefinders, 549-6450

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washer, dryer, dishwasher, fireplace, off-street
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hardwood floors, charming bay windows,
fireplace, yard. Walk to BART and shopping
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February 23/25, 1993

**725 APT. FOR RENT
1 BEDROOMS**

\$650 OFF Piedmont Avenue, includes parking. Quiet secure building, near transportation, shopping. No pets 426-4913.

\$650 SPACIOUS Spanish style 950 sq. ft., high ceilings, hardwood, closets, garage 2552 Ivy 601-234.

\$650 UTILITIES paid, Oakland Rose Garden, large eat-in kitchen, older building, coin laundry. Nancy 658-8315.

\$655-\$675 NEW security building. Microwave, dishwasher, refrigerator, separate, balcony, laundry. Easy access to San Francisco, Berkeley, Walnut Creek. 125 Moss Ave 547-428.

\$665 SUNNY and spacious Gorgeous older 7 unit building. Lake Merritt, China Hill 228 Athol. Quiet, windows, closets galore, storage, parking, garage available. Includes most utilities, cats okay, 531-0567.

\$665 VERY large 1 bedroom plus, plus, homey building, great neighbors, utilities paid. Off Grand Ave. Barbara 834-4133.

\$675 DUPLEX Large 1 bedroom with fireplace. Exceptional storage, good quiet Laurel neighborhood. 841-3276.

\$675 SPACIOUS 1 bedroom. Small 8-plex. Spar-king clean. Sunny Walk to Piedmont Ave., trans- portation. 428-1186.

\$685 SPANISH style classic large 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, all utilities included. 834-3110.

\$690 WONDERFUL large 1 bedroom, great stor-age, hardwood floors, separate dining. Beautiful Art Deco building. Easy commute to San Fran-cisco, downtown Oakland 839-8292 or 832-6687.

\$695-\$700 CLASSIC 1920 Art Deco building. Large 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, cedar lined closets, high ceilings, formal dining room, private garden, Lake views, parking Near transportation building. 832-4782.

\$695 ONE bedroom near Rose Garden, garage, washer/dryer. 655-6159.

\$700-\$725 MONTCLAIR Piedmont border 1 and 2 bedroom deck, tree view. References 523-3900, 522-6460.

\$700 LARGE 1 bedroom duplex, very clean, gar-age, hardwood floors, yard. Pet negotiable. 845-4161.

\$700 PIEDMONT Ave area, 1+ bedroom spacious flat, lamp, 254-9754.

\$700 SMALL 1 bedroom in 4-plex, 2 blocks from Piedmont Ave. Fireplace, garden, patio, washer/dryer. Available March 1: 549-0365.

\$700 TRESTLE GLEN

Bright, upper 1 bedroom, ideal for 1 in charming, quiet duplex. Large closets, new carpets, drapes and paint. Immaculate. 2 blocks to downtown or SF transportation and local shopping. No pets or smoking. Showing Saturday, February 20, 11-12 733 Haddon Pl (444-8349).

\$710 OLDER building (1920's). Just off Piedmont Ave. Large, sunny 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, big old fashioned kitchen with many cupboards, gas stove, huge closets, view to back yard 253-9418.

\$715 CONDOMINIUM near Piedmont. Cozy, architecturally exciting, privacy, deck, dishwasher. 473 Jean (Santa Clara) 268-4068.

\$725 GORGEOUS, spacious, sunny, bay windows, formal dining. Near transportation, walking distance to financial district. Heat-gas in-cluded 251-0511, 451-9256.

\$725 GRAND 1 bedroom, living room, formal dining/closet, garage, laundry, quiet fourplex 482-1002.

\$735 LARGE, sunny 1 bedroom. Charming older building with hardwood floors. Levolors, off-street parking. Laundry. All utilities paid. Grand Lake area 743 Warfield (510)832-1888.

\$740 SUNNY and spacious 1 bedroom plus den, with fireplace. Adams Point. Off-street parking, quiet well maintained building. 465-0245.

\$745 ROCKRIDGE 1 bedroom near College and Broadway Water/garage paid 831-1206.

\$750 DEPOSIT-\$750 1 bedroom, 1 bath apart-ment. Great location near Rockridge. Must see to appreciate! Available now. SLP 569-7881 Ext 177.

\$750 GRAND Lake area 1 bedroom, hardwood floors, garage, gas stove, yard 832-5811.

\$750 MONTCLAIR, Bay view, deck, one bedroom in-law. Share laundry, garage, utilities \$175 buys extra room. Non-smoker, no pets. 531-8461.

\$750 MONTCLAIR cozy in-law, wooded 1+ bed-room, deck, laundry, new wall to wall carpeting. 531-0923.

\$750 ONE bedroom near Holy Names. Private, secure in-law. Non-smoker. No pets. Share util-ities 530-4052.

\$750 ROCKRIDGE sunny 1 bedroom in duplex. Quiet neighborhood near BART, shops Utilities included. 658-9370.

\$775-\$795 EXTREMELY spacious and sunny 1 bedroom available in older Spanish style Rockridge building/ near BART and Market Hall In-cludes heat, parking 547-7426; 450-0285.

\$775 BRIGHT, quiet, plush, modern secure build-ing, balcony, parking available immediately, near Piedmont Theater, 522-9383.

\$775 ROCKRIDGE spacious, sunny, quiet, Japanese garden, view, near transportation. Car-port no pets. 658-4136.

\$795 ENGLISH Tudor carriage house, 1 bedroom, very unique and attractive, near Lake, 393 Bel-mont. Non-smoker, pet, 465-5320.

\$795 EXTRA large 1 bedroom in 1920's 4-plex. Private entrance, hardwood floors, formal dining, fireplace, kitchen/breakfast area, built-ins, gar-den, lawn, carport. Montecito Apartments 832-4782.

\$795 TRESTLE Glen 4-plex, 1 bedroom, view, appliances, garden, near transportation, stores, cat okay. 601-1656.

\$800 GLENVIEW duplex, one bedroom plus bonus room, large deck. Private, secure, trans-portion Non-smoker. 530-3606.

\$800 ON the Lake, 900-1000 sq. ft., 1 bedroom flats, 1929 luxury art deco building. Hardwood floors, walk-in closets, steam heat included, cats okay 451-9062.

\$800 ROCKRIDGE large upstairs flat, fireplace, hardwood floors, laundry, garage, very special. Pets negotiable. 655-7942.

\$875 SUNNY upper flat, large living room, formal dining w/ built-in glass buffet, kitchen/pantry 1 large bedroom, hardwood floors, elevators. New appliances, landscaped garden, off street parking. No pets. Smokers 839-0667.

\$900 GRAND Lake sunny, refurbished, 1 bed room townhouse. Elegant dining, hardwood floors. Lake, parking 843-9508.

\$915 PIEDMONT Border. Hardwood floors, yard, laundry 482-5077.

\$925 STUNNING Lake view 1 bedroom apartment in 1929 luxury art deco building. Hardwood floors, separate dining and kitchen area, 14 foot ceilings, lots of light, walk-in closets, cat okay 451-9062.

ADAMS POINT Spacious Apartments 452-2141

1 Bedroom \$635-\$745
2 Bedroom 1 Bath \$865
2 Bedroom 2 Bath \$955-\$975
3 Bedroom 2 Bath PENTHOUSE \$1170

Balcony Pool. Microwave Dishwasher. Parking. Two blocks to lake and Grandlake Theater. 520 Van Buren Avenue.

**726 APT. FOR RENT
2 BEDROOMS**

\$595 TWO bedroom, 3 blocks Lake, Grand Ave. Convenient transportation. Move-In negotiable. Available 268-1522, 268-9155.

**726 APT. FOR RENT
2 BEDROOMS**

\$600 MORMON Temple area, 2 bedrooms in newer fiveplex, laundry. No pets 531-6118.

\$600 TWO bedroom, 1 bath, upstairs, newly decorated. Plus cleaning deposit. No pets 632-1221.

\$600 NEW owner. New management. 407 Fairmount Ave. Parking available at \$20 per month. Secure Resident manager 547-1907.

\$600 NORTH Oakland 2 bedroom condo, parquet hardwood floors, small complex, near BART 547-8858.

\$600 TWO bedroom, 1 bedroom, Dimon District. Large living, bedrooms. Near shopping. Parkin. 531-2867.

\$600 TWO bedroom Piedmont apartment, dish-washer, storage, laundry, parking. #43832-B Homefinders, 549-6450.

\$605 SPACIOUS 2 bedroom, near Piedmont Rose Garden, above 580, very clean, parking, 654-3837.

\$670 TWO blocks from Piedmont Ave., includes parking, laundry, cable, 523-3912.

\$675 LAUREL 2 bedrooms on Maybellie. Quiet and clean building. Dishwasher, deck, parking, laundry 658-9990.

\$700 PARK Blvd 2 bedrooms large, sunny, hardwood floor, 4-pet. Laundry, garage, no pets 835-9393.

\$765 SPACIOUS, attractive 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Quiet, quality building. Deck, parking, new paint, new blinds. Water, garbage included. 3701 Maybellie, near High above MacArthur. Open Sat. 10-1. 843-5533.

\$765-\$795 2629 LESTER 2 bedroom, 1 bath. AEK, new carpet, gas heat, com laundry, parking included. Garden setting. One year lease. Call Kevin at 531-6969 for an appointment.

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Share Rentals**Alameda**

771 **ONE BEACH** front, private room, bath, kitchen, parking, pool, sauna, non-smoker. Call 1-865-7863

772 Albany & Kensington

770 ONE bedroom available in sunny 3 bedroom house. Hardwood floors, fireplace, new dry, hot tub, front and back yard. Close to bus and shops. Non-smoker, no pets.

773 Berkeley

725 PRIVATE, sunny, large, furnished room. UC Fireplace, share bath, yard. Quiet. Call 644-4461

774 El Cerrito & North

units - Large beautiful hills home. Spacious, sunny, view, peaceful, storage, near Park 236-8152

775 Oakland

Piedmont & South

795 MONTH TO month Room to rent in furnished 1 room, 1 bath house near Piedmont Ave. Share with 2 non-smoking men 1/3 utilities share \$483

796 STAGE home, sunny room with deck, share kitchen, laundry, yard. Near 5th & 4th

797 ROOM to rent. Male, non-smoker, in quiet city. mitchells, furnished \$350

798 SHARE 3 bedroom Rockridge house with professional woman. Roomy, all amenities. Near 645-1274

799 MONTCLAIR Beautiful, wooded, decks, share laundry, kitchen, utilities. Seeking neat, responsible adult. 530-8091

800 PIEDMONT bedroom in 4 bedroom house, washer, dryer, yard. Nice neighborhood. 530-4202

801 \$700 PANORAMIC Bay View. Quiet. Deer Hillside. Near Keller and Shelly. 562-9386

802 CHARMING studio with its own entrance. You share the bathroom with just one person. Pets 653-5433

803 QUAKEMERRIT large 3 bedroom, cozy home, laundry, sunroom, large eat. cat. Non-smoking. Pets. Plus utilities 451-4508, 451-7154

804 PIEDMONT own bedroom and bath. Share kitchen, wing room, PG&E, laundry. Female only. 644-6003

805 ENCLAVE Bedroom and study, home like. Share 1/2 baths, laundry, storage, garden tools, utilities with growth oriented couple. Occasional 10 year. Seeking neat, independent or less, non-smoker. 482-0857

806 INC-UD-ES uties, first last and security. No pets/ children, female only. 655-4598 after 6

807 MONTCLAIR used SWISS Chalet, hill top, brick patio, barbecue. Male only. Richard, 430-376 message

808 5-Acre beautiful Montclair home, fireplace, open smokers. Available March 15. Quiet. 530-1149

809 5435 TERRIE bridges Bay view! Large bed-room, small bedroom, carpeted, fireplace, decks smokers. 530-6818

810 32 year old woman- young son seeking to share great house. Deck, yard, fire-pit, laundry, separate bath. 531-9795

811 INC-UD-NG utilities, first last and security. No share home with straight male or female. Hardwood floors, security system, storage available. Non-smoker. Street parking. 530-1807

812 MONTCLAIR Sunny room. Spacious living/ kitchen areas. Laundry. Big yard. Decks. Walk to transportation/ shopping. No utilities. Deposits \$31-1816

813 QUIT, private home in Sequoia District. 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Full garden and private deck. Seeking full-time employed professional who wants to share a large beautiful home. 644-8828

814 SPACIOUS, comfortable, safe, 2 bedroom, top duplex, great windows, fireplace, yard. Must consider woman 40's. Deposit 530-4347

815 PLUS utilities. 3 bedroom house near UC, transportation. Open minded, fun loving person. 644-8249

816 PLUS utilities. Piedmont/Crocker Highlands. 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, washer, dryer, fire place, own bath. Garage. Non-smoker, no pets. 644-8373

817 PLUS utilities. Roommate to share 2 bedroom house, located in Montclair. Hardwood floors, large kitchen, living room, dining room. Situated in end of quiet cul-de-sac. Available now. 531-9082

818 CROCKER Highlands home, spacious, own bath, fireplace, laundry, professional, seeking, large bedroom. 452-0386, 530-8932

819 GLENVIEW, woman, charming 2 bedroom, hot tub, fireplace, hardwood floors, yard. 530-3638

820 QUIT 2 bedroom Glenview house. Large basement room, nice backyard, plus utility room. Mature professional. Available. 531-4271

821 SEEKING kind, responsible female to share Montclair home (Decks, hot tub, view, balcony) I'm a consultant/writer with one child. Deborah 548-8333

822 NC-UD-ING utilities. Beautiful 3 bedroom house. Professional female preferred. 547-7218

823 PALACE in Pinet Share spacious, quiet, home. Fireplace, decks, garage. 530-5196, 923-4385

824 QUIT 2 bedroom Glenview house. Large basement room, nice backyard, plus utility room. Mature professional. Available. 531-4271

825 SPECTACULAR Bay view, 3 decks, hot tub, fireplace. Share with 2 non-smoking. 482-4373

826 QUIT 2 bedroom Glenview house. Large basement room, nice backyard, plus utility room. Mature professional. Available. 531-4271

827 QUIT house with many amenities looking for friendly independent 30 something female. Non-smoking. Plus deposits. Available March 1 530-7172

828 PLUS 1/3 utility. Montclair. Beautiful, 2 bedroom spacious house. Hardwood floors, fireplace, hot tub, decks, view. Non-smoker. 601-9700, leave message

829 SPECTACULAR Bay view, 3 decks, hot tub, fireplace. Share with 2 non-smoking. 482-4373

830 QUIT 2 bedroom Glenview house. Large basement room, nice backyard, plus utility room. Mature professional. Available. 531-4271

831 QUIT kind, responsible female to share Montclair home (Decks, hot tub, view, balcony) I'm a consultant/writer with one child. Deborah 548-8333

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833 PALACE in Pinet Share spacious, quiet, home. Fireplace, decks, garage. 530-5196, 923-4385

834 QUIT, private home. Lower Montclair. Share with experienced, professional male. 36. Available now. 531-4271

835 NC-UD-ING utilities. Quiet, comfortable 2 bedroom house. Lower Montclair. Share with experienced, professional male. 36. Available now. 531-4271

836 NC-UD-ING utilities. Montclair. Quiet, Bay views. Kitchen, bath, remodeled, large yard, fireplace, deck, large yard, share utilities. 530-2025

837 MONTCLAIR. Share woodsy 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, deck, hot tub, large yard, Quail Street. Walk to Redwood trail! No available March 1 533-7222

838 MONTCLAIR, sunny, unbelievable Diablo/3rd floor. Next to Park, sauna, spa. Share with wife. New male 531-5211

839 NC-UD-ING utilities. Montclair. Quiet, Bay views. Kitchen, bath, remodeled, large yard, fireplace, deck, large yard, share utilities. 530-2025

840 NC-UD-ING utilities. Montclair. Quiet, Bay views. Kitchen, bath, remodeled, large yard, fireplace, deck, large yard, share utilities. 530-2025

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REAL ESTATE

February 25, 1993 HILLS PUBLICATIONS Page 23

Commercial markets see light at end of long, dark tunnel

RICHARD KNUSTON
Real Estate Forum
In the two decades since 1971, commercial real estate credit has grown every year, with an average increase of over 11.5 percent. Total outstanding debt finally turned south in 1991, slipping about 1 percent. The decline continued in '92, plunging another 3 percent to just over \$700 billion.

Since most commercial real estate financing is required to be repaid in three to 10 years, instead of the traditional 30-year term of home mortgages, the need to refinance commercial property is part and parcel to a healthy operation of the markets.

When lenders pull out of a market so quickly and completely as happened in '89, only a catastrophe of depression-era proportions could occur. And it did.

Investment values of virtually all product-types, from office buildings to warehouses, shopping

Liquidity...will flow into commercial real estate with the establishment of a secondary market via CMBS's.

centers to hotels, declined 10 to 50 percent. When the owners and developers couldn't pay mortgages or refinance them at payoff time, the banks took the properties into inventory known as "other real estate owned," or REO.

These assets were almost al-

ways worth less than the original loan amount, dragging down the banks' balance sheets along with the plummeting property values.

Commercial real estate markets are only now beginning to emerge from the long, dark tunnel. With losses expected to decline and

growth anticipated to return, timing for new financing vehicles is excellent. Enter the hottest new concept: commercial mortgage-backed securities.

Soon to be known as CMBS's, this investment vehicle will create a virtually new secondary market in commercial mortgages. In the

past, banks, pension funds and insurance companies have been the principal lenders for medium and large commercial real estate ventures. Most such institutions hold these loans in permanent inventory, as they tend to be large,

See Credit, next page

New secondary market created with CMBS's

As the "Great Credit Crunch" of 1989 to 1993 abates, a bruised and battered commercial real estate industry is looking to avoid a recurrence. The historic credit crunch has forever changed the way commercial financing works.

DOWNTOWN ASSISTANCE FOR FIRST TIME BUYERS

Are you a low to moderate income, first-time homebuyer interested in purchasing a home in EMERYVILLE? CONTACT: The Emeryville Redevelopment Agency's First Time Homebuyer's Program (510) 596-4316

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INVESTMENT PROPERTY \$220,000
plex w/fourplex potential. Plus deep lot. Seller motivated. ROGNE BUTLER 526-5143

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(510) 526-5143

HOMES BY RICHARD KNUSTON

Realtor president sees increase in sales in '93

A spark in sales activity during the last quarter of 1992 boosted California's existing, detached housing market, ending the year on an upbeat note, according to full-year figures from the California Association of Realtors.

"California's housing market received a welcomed boost from a post-election improvement in consumer confidence and a strength-

ened overall national economy," said CAR president Walt McDonald. He predicted a "modest recovery" this year, and said, "We still expect 1993 home sales to increase 2 percent compared to 1992."

Thirty percent of California households could afford to purchase a median-priced detached

See Homes, next page

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Incredible value! Lovely, traditional 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on a quiet court in the El Cerrito hills. Ideally suited for comfortable living and gracious entertaining. DORIS ALEXANDER & SUE NELSON 527-9111

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Realtor Profile

Name: Diane Ohlsson

Title: Realtor Associate, Nakamura Realty Co., Inc., Berkeley.

Address: Albany.

Hobbies: Travel, dance and Eastern philosophy.

Career Former career in psychology; entered real estate in 1975, specializes in sales of residential and income property in Albany, Berkeley and Oakland.

Quotable quote: "Often the decision to buy or sell a primary residence coincides with a major transition in a person's life. The client's journey takes great courage and is profoundly personal."

One's home is one of the most important symbols of this inner experience. By dialoguing with their deeper self, the client can become aware of what is his or her unique answer to the question:



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Credit...

continued from previous page

unique and difficult to sell.

CMB's will allow lenders to pool commercial mortgages, have the pool evaluated for risk and return, and then sell off the pools in small shares through stock brokerages, like other financial securities. This method of raising capital is known as commercial mortgage "securitization."

For several years, residential-backed securities have been successfully tapped for home mortgages, thus the home finance market enjoyed good liquidity, even through the recent recession. The same benefits of liquidity, diversification of risk, flexibility in raising capital and broadening the investor base will flow into commercial real estate with the establishment of a secondary market via CMB's.

But BMBS's must jump some formidable hurdles before enjoying widespread acceptance. The issue of standard underwriting is being addressed by efforts to conform commercial property loans to

a predetermined set of criteria.

There are regulatory roadblocks to overcome, such as adequate risk-taking, so that passive investors won't suffer the losses incurred by REIT investors of the 1970's and early '80s. Finally, price volatility will have to be mitigated, usually by a practice called "over-collateralization," or an unusually low ratio between loan and the property's value.

The benefits to the commercial real estate industry, financial institutions and our local tax bases are substantial. Beyond bringing additional capital into a thirsty market and providing an attractive return for the small investor, the commercial mortgage-backed security could help us avoid another "Great Credit Crunch." Let's hope so.

Richard Knutson, CCIM, handles investment properties for a national commercial real estate brokerage in Oakland. Please address letters to: Hills Newspapers, Real Estate Desk, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland 94619.

Children's Network has helped millions

Realtors rally behind local fundraising effort

By Carol Isreal
Special to Hills Newspapers

Realtors have traditionally been the backbone of charitable fundraising in the community. Now, building your business is kid's stuff. At least, that's the natural benefit Realtors derive from supporting the Children's Miracle Network (CMN).

The children's Miracle Network was established in 1983 to generate funds and awareness programs for the benefit of children served by its associated hospitals. This outreach has provided needed care for over 5 million children during the last 10 years. In our community, Children's Hospital Oakland, as the primary beneficiary, is in the spotlight.

Between Los Angeles and Seattle, Children's Hospital Oakland offers the most extensive range of services for children from infancy to 20 years old. Doctors in 32 pediatric specialties treat children with all types of afflictions: cancer, heart and muscular diseases,

birth defects, cerebral palsy, cystic fibrosis, AIDS/HIV, and accident victims.

At Children's Hospital Oakland, you'll find a complete "one-room school," as well as a newly formed teen lounge with low windows for maximum privacy, a graffiti wall poster, special artwork, a teen newsletter, bingo and cooking programs.

When children are hospitalized and hurting, family members are

hurting, too. Built-in window seats in patients' rooms double as overnight accommodations for parents and relatives. Out-of-town travelers can stay at the Family House just across the street. These are some of the special amenities designed for treating the "whole child." In addition, service is based on need, not ability to pay.

Don't miss the 11th Annual Children's Miracle Network Telethon, scheduled June 6 and

broadcast live from Disney. Corporate sponsors include Mart, RE/MAX, Hershey Late USA, Kraft/General Mastercard and others.

In the meantime, you can support: Volunteer, but time and donate. It's a step that really makes a difference and it isn't difficult at all!

Carole Israel is a real agent with ReMax East Group, Inc.

tors reported.

NAR president William said the increase in sales is a indicator of consumer confidence and that the housing market is on the track to recovery.

"Real estate is a good Chee said, pointing to a toward more realistic pricing

Homes...

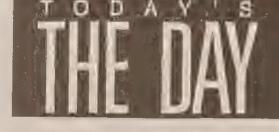
continued from previous page

home during 1992, up from 25 percent the previous year. Assuming a 20 percent downpayment on the \$197,900 median-priced home, a household needed a minimum household income of \$56,060 to qualify for a home loan. The monthly mortgage payment for that home, including property taxes

and insurance, would be \$1,400.

National Sales

On the national level, low interest rates continued to coax buyers into the marketplace, pushing home resale activity up in 46 states during the fourth quarter of 1992, the National Association of Realtors reported.



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✓ NEW THIS WEEK
FEATURED HOME THIS WEEK

ESTATE SALE AND REAL ESTATE SALE — 3005 FERNSIDE Friday 12-5 and all day Saturday. This 2 bedroom home is located in the prestigious Fernside District and has easy access to everything — schools, shopping, transportation, etc. This home needs a little TLC, but is the perfect starter home for today's first-time buyer. \$249,000. For more details, call George Gadsby 748-5308.



CLASSIC BROWN SHINGLE from the Edwardian period designed by Leota Hall in near-original condition with the addition of an in-law unit or au pair. Four plus bedrooms, 1 full bath plus 2 half baths. Elegant hardwood floors, large formal dining room, fireplace, upper floor deck. Easily restorable to the grandeur of yesterday. Large lot with room for additional parking. Prestigious Claremont location. Asking \$499,000. Call Phil Hunt for more information. 748-5315.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONSCIOUS? Enjoy all the advantages of Bay Farm Island without the homeowner's dues. Comfortable family living starts here in this 3 bedroom, 2 bath home. Hardwood floors, fireplace, 1-car garage and it's already set up for an in-home office. Easy walk to schools, shopping, golf course, transportation. Reasonably priced at \$244,000. Just listed! Margaret Gadsby today, 748-5305.

WALK RIGHT IN, SIT RIGHT DOWN. It's that easy in this one-level, easy-to-live-in contemporary. Features spacious room, formal dining room and gleaming kitchen. Master bedroom with bath and second bedroom with atrium. Den office space convertible to third bedroom. Swing in driveway, 2-car garage, flagstone patio, landscaped rear yard. \$295,000. Ask for Joe Smith, 748-5314.

WANT MORE FOR YOUR MONEY? Check out this completely remodeled 4 bedroom, 3 bath family home. Two master bedrooms make mornings a breeze. Like-new kitchen and baths. Formal dining room, fireplace, 2-car detached garage. \$275,000. To see for yourself call Phil Hunt, 748-5315.

GREAT BEGINNINGS! That's what you'll find in this classic bungalow-style North Oakland home. Two+ bedrooms, living room with fireplace, separate dining room, hardwood floors and a truly roomy eat-in kitchen. Plenty of storage in the basement. One car garage and fenced back yard. Priced to sell at \$179,000. Won't last! Call Stan Hammond now, 891-0854.

DESIGNED WITH A FAMILY IN MIND. This flexible contemporary features 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, including a master suite on the upper floor, plus a very convenient 1 bedroom, 1 bath downstairs with its own outside entry. Get everyone together in 18 x 30 family room with fireplace. Covered patio, 2-car garage and much more. \$289,000. Just listed! Call Margaret Gadsby 748-5305, for your personal tour.



COME HOME TO THE BEST in the heart of Alameda's Gold Coast. This splendid home blends the grace and charm of the '30s in the formal living room, dining room and entry with modern elegance and efficiency in the gourmet kitchen and breakfast area. French doors open to a deck on an oversized lot ideal for children's play. Stairs from the entry lead to 2 bedrooms and bath on 1 level, and continue on to a striking master bedroom. \$479,000. Ask for Andy Jordan, 748-5312.

FOR THE DISCRIMINATING! Check out the features in this very special 2 bedroom, 2 bath condominium located just a stone's throw from the beach. Track lighting, gas-burning fireplace, wet bar, built-ins, mirrored closet doors, this unit will delight you. Come pool and recreation room. \$149,500. Ask for Margaret Gadsby, 748-5305.

LARGER THAN MANY HOMES! There's plenty of room for your cherished possessions in this 2 bedroom, 2 bath 1400+ ft. condo. Corner location with sun from 2 sides. Living room fireplace. Security building features pool, saunas and recreation room. Located above 580, convenient to transportation and shopping. \$149,000. 891-0850.

HARD TO PLEASE? You will love the high standards of design and quality throughout this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath home. Don't miss the master bedroom suite, lavish in size, with oval tub, separate shower and closets galore, or the sunken family room fireplace and wet bar off a spacious kitchen. Sited on a roomy corner lot, Crown Beach is just a stroll away. New price! \$389,000. Call Margaret Gadsby today, 748-5305.

STYLE YOU DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD FIND in a 1 bedroom condo. Remodeled from the tile entry with built-in office to tiled kitchen work/eating counter and built-in Jenn-Air and microwave. Berber carpets and ceiling fan/light fixtures. Balcony private patio. Downtown location near the lake. Sparkles! \$74,000. Stan Hammond, 891-0854.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKING! Small business owner or investor. Two commercial storefronts plus 4 residential units. Good street traffic. 6.4 x gross. \$250,000. For income/expenses call Stan Hammond, 891-0854.

JOIN THE FUN ON CHRISTMAS TREE LANE. This 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath California bungalow will give you a front row seat on Alameda's most decorated holiday street. Living room with fireplace and sunny formal dining room, both with refinished hardwood floors. Bonus family room, ample storage and a roomy lot. \$321,000. Call Andy Jordan, 748-5312.

SO YOU WANT THE FINEST? It's waiting for you in this 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath masterpiece home. Vaulted ceiling in living room and master bedroom, formal dining area, random plank hardwood floors in entry, kitchen and dining area. One of the largest lots in Harbor Bay, with family-sized backyard 2 doors from the lagoon, park and bike path on a quiet cul-de-sac. \$459,000. Call Margaret Gadsby, 748-5308.

LOOKING FOR SPACE AND INCOME? Try this triplex, perfect for owner-occupant. Traditional-style duplex, each with 2 bedrooms, living room, dining room and laundry porch, hardwood floors, wood trim, plus a separate 1 bedroom apartment with fireplace, over a 3-car garage. Plenty of storage, parking, and yard. Pick your unit and rent the other two! \$345,000. Call Stan Hammond for more details, 891-0854.

YOU'LL LOVE THE ROOMY FEEL of this easy living, clean-lined contemporary. Handsomely tiled entry leads to a grand cathedral ceilinged living room with corner windows to catch the sun. Dining room with glass doors to outside. Three full-size bedrooms won't cramp anyone's style. Master suite includes walk-in closets, dressing area and bath. Two-car garage has extra room for workshop or boat storage. Custom path with arbor for pleasant spring days. All this and more for \$339,000. Don't miss your chance, call Bart Smith right away. 748-5314.



BY APPOINTMENT

OAKLAND ★ MONTCLAIR ★ PIEDMONT ★ BERKELEY ★ ALAMEDA

HAVENS MANSION IN PIEDMONT \$2,995,000

Designed by Bernard Maybeck and Tiffany of New York. An architectural masterpiece. Piedmont's own "Taj Mahal." A truly splendid palace.

LINDA VAN DRENT HOWARD ROBBINS

SF BAY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM \$737,500

Architect designed 4 year old custom home. Vaulted ceilings, wrap around decks. Spacious kitchen w/family room, study & rec room.

DAVE MENDELSON

PIEDMONT TUDOR \$699,000

Just listed. 15 year old custom home on large lot on cul-de-sac location. Three bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Upstairs has 9' ceilings, perfect for an art collector.

GEORGE KARSANT

NEW CONSTRUCTION \$555,000

Just listed. Spacious sunlit rooms. Exciting floor plan. Two fireplaces. Family room adjacent to kitchen. Master suite, 3 bedrooms, 3 baths.

EVELYN WALKER

PIEDMONT SPANISH MEDITERRANEAN ... \$419,000

Formal living & dining room. 4 bedrooms, 2 bath & spacious. Just listed.

NORM ROBINOW

MONTCLAIR \$367,000

Bank Repo/SPL Financing. Dramatic contemporary; living room, dining/family room; large master suite w/sitting area & master bath. 4 bedrooms, 3 baths total.

LINDA VAN DRENT HOWARD ROBBINS

ONE OWNER HOME \$292,000

A modern log cabin on a sunny level lot with a master suite, 2 more bedrooms & hall bath, a "greatroom" with big fireplace.

KATHERINE COOPER

339-1174

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It's Your Home

Be careful when figuring ways to cover floor vents

Ben Vitcov

I've taped cardboard over floor vents in my furnace to keep out spiders. But neighbor tells me this is dangerous. Should I be worried? You are hindering the ability of the furnace to perform at peak efficiency. Forced air furnaces require a vented floor vent that provides air from the crawl space. Gases depend on oxygen for operation. The furnace closet also contains a vent that allows heat to escape from the enclosure to the outside where it dissipates through

the screened attic vents to the outside. Occasionally, attic insulation will accidentally shift and cover the ventilation screen. It should be regularly checked to make sure that it is uncovered and able to provide a free flow of air.

No one likes to see a spider lurking in the corner, but few people enjoy paying higher heating costs or the bill to repair or replace a furnace. To allow your furnace to work at peak efficiency and not to fail prematurely, keep the screened air vents in the furnace closet open to fresh air.

Ben Vitcov is president of Prop-erty Inspection Service.

Grubb & Ellis
2220 MOUNTAIN BLVD., OAKLAND
339-8666

PIEDMONT LISTINGS

COMMANDING BAY VIEW JINI KELLEY \$1,300,000
Traditional is great for entertaining. Featuring wrap-around decks, wet-bar, den, family room, pool, spa. Take the elevator or stairs to the spacious living room.
NEW PIEDMONT CONSTRUCTION FRANCIS DOLMAGE-HEATH \$975,000
beautiful English Tudor styled home with old world charm yet contemporary amenities. New with ten foot ceilings, a library, FR and gourmet kitchen.
CAPTIVATING VIEWS PAUL THOMPSON \$895,000
Oakland, SF, and the Golden Gate. This is a warm and inviting 4+ bedroom, 3 bath remodeled impeccably with many custom amenities throughout.

OAKLAND-BERKELEY-EAST BAY
MAGNIFICENT COLONIAL SUSIE MCGLYNN \$699,000
estate detailing with a knotty pine paneled den, rumpus room, sewing room & spacious yard perfect for entertaining. A terrific family home in desirable Piedmont Pines.
6 CONTEMPORARY HAL CASTLE \$659,000
Exceptional craftsmanship is evident in this 90's Deco home. Extensive glass opens to a new living, master bedroom and den. Marble tile complements the Euro-Kitchen.
RARE FIND VICKIE CHAN CASE \$585,000
an immaculate five-unit apartment complex in a very desirable, central Alameda location. This excellent investment opportunity for the right buyer.
TRADITIONAL BEAUTY J.R. LONG & W. KASHIWA \$459,600
new construction. Quality design and details throughout, 3 bedrooms, 2+ baths in the Berkeley hills with wonderful views of the Bay and San Francisco!

EXECUTIVE LIVING HAL CASTLE \$418,000
private setting among trees. Rich wood details, open floor plan with generous room sizes. Room opens to light and the kitchen opens to a private patio & spa.
PANISH MEDITERRANEAN NANCY KNOLLS/VICTOR FIERRO \$379,000
wonderful 3 bedroom home is located in upper Rockridge near all your favorite shops and restaurants. With 3 bridge views and beautiful detailing it is perfect for entertaining.
ROLLER HIGHLANDS NEW CONSTRUCTION OLLIE HAMMEREL \$379,000
panorama views in this exclusive neighborhood. Brand new construction due for completion in '93 this is a 3 bedroom, 3 bath with loft and many amenities with upgrades throughout.
TALK TO THE ROSE GARDEN THOMAS WURST \$359,000
to the market this is a very spacious 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath, new eat-in kitchen, enclosed sun porch, upgrades and much more.
NEW LISTING IN PIEDMONT PINES FRANCIS DOLMAGE-HEATH \$349,000
country living in the city. This is the perfect family home with great expandable space and serene setting. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, rumpus room and more.
SUNNY OASIS HAL CASTLE \$319,000
hosted by trees this spacious home offers a den, family room, level lot and hot tub. Perfect for large families in the Montclair School district. A mountain retreat - city convenient.

LON LOWE CONTEMPORARY VICTOR FIERRO \$319,000
family home designed by Tom Lowe. Flexible floor plan for executives or large families. High ceilings, family room & decks provide a wonderful setting for entertaining.
MONTCLAIR HILLS CHARMER VICTOR FIERRO \$319,000
large home is perfect for executives or a large family. Nestled in the trees it offers privacy and view. This home has dramatic vaulted ceilings with a large living & family rooms.
MONTCLAIR CONTEMPORARY ED KUO \$309,500
large 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath home on over 2000 square feet with vaulted ceilings, 2 car attached garage and many skylights throughout. Possible lease option.
TRADITIONAL CHARMER NANCY S. WELK \$299,500
updated 3+ bedroom, 1+ bath North Berkeley home on a pretty, tree-lined street. Belvoir Ave. shops and restaurants. Move-in condition.

NEW MONTCLAIR LISTING HAL CASTLE \$289,000
private and secluded Montclair home is surrounded by redwood and pine trees with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths a den and fireplace. In move-in condition. Montclair schools.
HANOSOME TRADITIONAL RACHEL BALLER \$279,000
rooms, 2 baths with Bay views off the deck and from the yard. Light filled and architecturally pleasing throughout. Security system - immaculate condition. Great for entertaining.
OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS ARNOLD MUELLER \$269,000
living duplex in the Dimond district. Live in the 3 bedroom, 2 bath owner's unit, rent the 2nd, 1 bath unit. Near all conveniences with off-street parking. Owner leaving area-motivated.
FAMILY RETREAT EARLE SHENK \$265,000
out of town guests can stay pool side in the separate cottage while you enjoy the 4 bedroom on the ideal 1/4 acre lot. Friendly family neighborhood.
ARCHITECTURAL BEAUTY PHYLLIS RAYMOND \$259,500
and remodeled by an architect, this stunning 3 bedroom Redwood Heights home offers a kitchen and bath. In move-in condition just waiting for you.

PHYLIS RAYMOND \$256,000
beautiful 2 bedroom, 2 bath home is now on the market. It includes a large family room, dining room, enclosed garden & patio and studio. Don't miss out!
BERKELEY BUNGALOW J.R. LONG & W. KASHIWA \$239,000
of a renowned custom wood artist whose work is gloriously displayed in the bay and bedroom doors. Beautiful 3 bedroom, 1 bath with separate studio in back.

55+ FORUM COMING SOON
Many minds want to know... know all about the latest senior-oriented products, services and facilities so that they can plan for a secure and rewarding retirement. For this reason, GRUBB & ELLIS created the 55+ forum, a retirement planning seminar and information fair that attracts hundreds of people. Learn more about:

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- Reverse Mortgages
- and much more...

There is no cost or obligation. Whether you are 32, 72 or somewhere in between we hope you can attend. You'll get an overview of the options and opportunities you need to consider now to ensure a successful retirement later. Space is limited.

LEASE CALL TODAY TO RESERVE YOUR SEAT
339-8666

Patricia Scott joins Pacific Union

Patricia Scott has joined Pacific Union Residential Brokerage of Montclair/Piedmont as a senior sales consultant specializing in residential properties.

Scott was formerly with The Grubb Co. in Montclair and has worked the Berkeley and Montclair/Piedmont areas since 1983.

A Bay Area resident for 11 years, Scott holds a bachelor's degree in fine arts from Humboldt State University.

She is a member of the National Association of Realtors, California Association of Realtors and the Oakland Association of Realtors.



Patricia Scott

Real estate mailbag

Neighbor's large, dangerous tree

Real Estate Editor:

We are on good terms with our uphill neighbor and don't want to change that by suggesting that they remove the huge pine tree in their backyard, which year-round covers the neighborhood roofs, gutters, drains, yards, gardens, sidewalks, streets and autos with windblown, falling needles.

However, we are every concerned that when the tree falls from its precarious hilltop perch due to old age and/or high winds or a quake, it will probably crush our utility lines, cars, house and possibly our lives.

Can you tell us the legal responsibilities of the tree's owner for damage resulting from such an act of God, and whether a registered letter to the tree owner from us, requesting the tree be removed, would be of any legal value in placing the responsibility on the owner?

We realize that such a letter might have the beneficial effect of calling the neighbor's attention to

a nuisance and a serious hazard and result in the tree's removal. But, unless such a letter would serve a legal function, we would not risk sending it and probably causing a relationship rift to no avail.

Please don't skirt answering the specific questions by suggesting a friendly chat with the neighbor about the situation. Thank you.

Name withheld by request

Piedmont

If the tree falls down on your land, your neighbor will probably be responsible for creating a nuisance and probably for negligence also, particularly if the neighbor has been warned of the danger.

If the threat to health is serious now, you may be able to have the nuisance abated. Write that letter. It will clearly place the liability on your neighbor. More importantly, it may get your neighbor to remove the tree, and with it the obvious threat you feel to life and limb — pardon the pun.

(Thanks to Oakland attorney Barry Gross for his help in answering this letter.)

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6051 GIRVIN DRIVE, Montclair, New Construction. Pano.....\$639,000
Bay View. Master Suite, Formal DR & LR. David Hennigan 633-3733
187 ST. JAMES DRIVE, Piedmont. Spacious Piedmont home.....\$599,000
5BD, 3BA, family room with fireplace, bay and canyon view. Lisa Weil 531-1653
6193 RIDGEMONT DRIVE, Ridgemont. Great neighborhood, great value.....\$485,000
4BD, 3BA, large family room, gorgeous view! Chris Christensen 530-8412
5661 CHAPPELL PLACE, Hilcrest. New listing! Bay view. Level.....\$459,000
yard 4+BD, 1+ acre. Great for family or shared living. Noll Davis 531-9536
5814 LASALLE, Montclair. Excellent family home. Good schools.....\$419,000
1000 sq. ft. all purpose rm up, rumpus or poss. in-law down. Donna Ranslem 547-6961
247 STANFORD, Kensington. OPEN 2-4:00! 3BD, 2BA, formal.....\$375,000
dining room, panoramic bay view, 3-car garage. Chris Read 524-5001
1409 GRAND AVE., Piedmont. 3BD, 2BA totally remodeled.....\$345,000
custom kitchen, garage, level yard. Lisa Weil 531-1653
6416 HEATHER RIDGE WAY, Montclair. Warm, pristine condition.....\$339,000
Split level on huge lot. Formal DR, updated kitch. & baths. Vicki Faulk 533-2950
1586 CAMPUS, Berkeley. OPEN 2-4:00. Best buy! Large home. 3BD, 3BA.....\$299,000
frm. rm., formal dining room or 4th BD, bay views. Kathy Snowden 649-8448
6269 WESTOVER, Montclair. Best price & location! Woodsy.....\$269,500
3BD, 2BA chalet with upside potential. Wendy Callaghan 839-9197
3481 MARGARITA, Oak Knoll. Large home, 3BD, family room.....\$255,000
office space, 2.5BA Move-in condition! Perfect location! Marianne Jamison 655-9615
3488 MARGARITA, Oak Knoll. Price reduction! Charming! 3BD with.....\$245,000
family room, 2BA, great area, level back yard. Marianne Jamison 655-9615
3275 ARIZONA, Mormon Temple. Charming & immaculate 2BD bungalow.....\$214,500
Formal dining, large det. garage & workshop. Holda Hirshberg 531-6118
1555 LAKESIDE, Lake Merritt. Fabulous view from every.....\$187,000
room. Formal dining room, extra storage. Dick Cohen 339-1117
3760-39TH AVE., Laurel. OPEN SAT. & SUN. New const. V.A. financing.....\$175,000+
2/2.5 townhomes. Fireplace, yard, sec. prk, bsmnt. Susie Lipps 482-8602
600 AILEEN, North Oakland. Motivated Seller! Totally refurbished 2BD.....\$139,000
1BA bungalow in absolute move-in condition. Marianne Jamison 655-9615

SHOWN BY APPOINTMENT

LEASE OR LEASE OPTION! Grand and spacious Spanish Mediterranean.....\$775,000
5BD, 4BA, with panoramic bay view. Holda Hirshberg 531-6118
EXECUTIVE HOME WITH G.G. VIEW. Move up to perfection. Tasteful.....\$579,000
4+BD, 3+BA. Gourmet kitchen. Great for entertaining. Noll Davis 531-9536
CROCKER - NEW LISTING! Updated Tudor with over-sized entertaining.....\$539,000
areas. 3/3 plus den. Terrific master suite. Annette Maddox 632-1406
SPECTACULAR BAY VIEW. 7-year-old home, 3000 sq. ft.....\$528,000
level yard. Builder's own! Will trade for lot. Marie Kenaga 339-1774
CUSTOM BUILT CONTEMPORARY! 3 years old. 3BD, 3BA.....\$525,000
rumpus room. Great office or in-law unit potential. Dorothy Carey 339-0484
DELIGHTFUL UPDATED CONTEMPORARY. Level yard, open floor plan.....\$399,000
and wrap-a-round decks. Great for entertaining. Donna Ranslem 547-6961
AFFORDABLE PIEDMONT FAMILY HOME! 3+BD, with large master.....\$385,000
Formal dining, yard. Walk to Beach School. Holda Hirshberg 531-6118
EXPANSIVE BAY VIEW. 2 walls of glass frame view.....\$319,000
Level yard. Cul-de-sac. 3+BD. Great potential! Noll Davis 531-9536
EXTRA SPACIOUS HOME. 5BD, 1.5BA, breakfast room.....\$265,000
On large lot. Lovely views. Chris Christensen 530-8412
VALUE, VIEW & CONDITION! California bungalow with huge eat-in.....\$215,000
kitchen. Great condition, 2BD, lots of extra space. Sandi Klemmer 654-4804
OWNER OCCUPIED DUPLEX. 2BD, 1BA, LR, dining area, laundry in.....\$210,000
each unit. Identical units. Super clean. Frank Hennefer 654-6461
GREAT BUNGALOW! Charming! 2BD, 1BA, great condition. Short walk to Rockridge BART & Market Hall! Marianne Jamison 655-9615
BUNGALOW + SEPARATE IN-LAW!. 3BD, 2BA house plus.....\$180,000
additional 2BD in-law quarters. Fenced yard. Sandi Klemmer 654-4804
MAXWELL PARK. Tudor with style! 3BD w/cathedral ceiling.....\$169,900
fireplace, hardwood floors, basement, garage. Kate Phillips 533-6108
BERKELEY 4-PLEX. Clean. Good condition. Large lot.....\$167,000
Clear pest report. Frank Hennefer 654-6461
CHARMING! WITH CHARACTER! Sunny 2BD. Move right in! Split.....\$159,500
level w/hardwood floors, large yard w/brick patio, garage. Kate Phillips 533-6108

CONDOMINIUMS

1.5 YEAR OLD 6-UNIT CONDO. In unit laundry, fabulous.....\$167,500
kitchen, fireplace, separate entry. Dick Cohen 339-1117
3760 - 39TH AVE., Laurel. New construction townhomes, 2 story.....\$175,000+
2BD, 2+BA, fireplace, yard. OPEN SAT & SUN 2-4:00. Susie Lipps 482-8602
CHEERY 1/1 ROCKRIDGE CONDO. Many amenities.....\$81,000
and close to everything! Annette Maddox 632-1406
LOTS
DELUXE BAY VIEW HOMESITE! .98 acre w/stunning views. Gentle.....\$165,000
downslope. Plans & design review approval for 4BD home. Peter Nicolopoulos 339-9780
RECENT PRICE REDUCTION. 2 bridge view. Prestigious Claremont.....\$158,000
Heights. Included plans, reports. OWC. Marie Kenaga 339-1774
ARCHITECTURAL PLANS INCLUDED. Level lot with ample.....\$93,000
134 ft. frontage in area of redevelopment. Marie Kenaga 339-1774
VARIOUS VIEW MONTCLAIR LOTS. Solid reports, survey, terms.....\$50,000+

HOME FOR SALE

BERKELEY OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$109,000 - 3217 SACRAMENTO ST.
3% down moves you into this 2 bedroom. Payment like rent.
Christopher 527-6824

\$124,500 - 1126 DERBY ST.
One bedroom cottage. Perfect condition. Keith 287-9468

OAKLAND OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$205,000 - 1238 Stannage.
Make an offer! 2+ bedroom, North Berkeley. Kathy 633-8870

OAKLAND OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$158,000 - 7715 CREST AVE.
Panoramic view! Big yard. Spacious 2+ bedroom nice area. Bargain.
Diane 526-5273

OPEN: 1:00 - 5:00
\$219,500 - 3503 KANSAS AVE.
Three bedroom home & business, fine craftsman w/income.
Ted Tagami 649-9006

BERKELEY OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$255,000 - 158 PANORAMIC
Panoramic SF view. 2 bedroom + studio income. Ted Tagami 649-9006

BERKELEY OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$188,000 - 2614 WARRING #2
"North UC best buy" 2 bedroom/2bath condo. No rent control. 1 minute to campus. Serena 237-3873

OAKLAND OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$115,000 - 6433 SHATTUCK
Three bedroom/2 bath condo. No. Oakland. Steve Y. 273-9569

OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$135,000 - 2243 - E 19TH
Large home 3 bedroom/2 bath. Steve Y. 273-9569

INCOME PROPERTIES

BERKELEY OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$184,000 - 3400 CALIFORNIA ST.
Four -1 bedroom \$184,000 - walk to bart. All vacant! Tracy Tan 805-1870

OPEN: 2:00 - 4:00
\$739,000 - 2441 DWIGHT
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'Firestorm' television movie revisited: questions remain

Film was a 'dog,'
most viewers and
critics agree

I watched the ABC Sunday Night Special Movie, "Firestorm: 12 hours in Oakland" with special interest: I'm an Oakland native, I was living in Alameda County when the fire hit, I'm employed by

a local construction firm and write a home maintenance column.

The movie was labelled "a real dog" by Montclarion writer Cheryl Bealer, and I tend to agree with that assessment. Points I would like to address, however, are those not covered in other reviews of the film.

This review begins, more or less, where Ms. Bealer's ended, with her remark, "All the fire survivors can do is wait, and hope

that some ward-winning documentary filmmaker wanders into the hills and finally tells what happened on October 21, 1991."

My central disappointment with "Firestorm" was that the producer walked too fine a line between a documentary and a drama. Viewers got a little of both, but not enough of one or the other to label the film as such.

Even the talent of well-known big screen actress Jill Clayburgh and the commendable acting of Michael Gross and LeVar Burton couldn't smooth the rough edges, like the cuts from scene to scene with mismatching textures that were as obvious as the difference between video and film.

Set locations were flawed also, some showing green grass already beginning to return. Another major flaw was the changes in the story from what actually happened.

One of the most demoralizing statements in the movie (which I hope is NOT the view of the Oakland Fire Department) occurs during a scene after the fire has been declared contained. The newly-appointed fire chief, played by LeVar Burton, says "nothing could have been done on Saturday that would have prevented the fire from raging out of control on Sunday."

If this is true, it isn't good enough. We have to be willing to fund advances in fire fighting technology. Perhaps the on-going investigation will reveal that the correct effort was not applied to the fire on Saturday.

Weather conditions forecast for Sunday spelled a high fire danger day: high winds, low humidity and hot weather. This fact was even brought out in the TV drama. Knowing this, one wonders why steps weren't taken to be sure the

Saturday fire was dead, buried, and killed once more for good measure.

Of course, this was not the case, no matter what the film's producers tried to portray. History has already been written. While we can't go back to Sunday, Oct. 21, 1991, we can attempt to learn what went wrong, and better prepare for more hot, windy days that are certain to come to Oakland.

When communication between emergency agencies breaks down, loss of control — and possibly loss of life — follows. Is this question being sufficiently addressed, and the necessary equipment being acquired?

If a fire burns with heat sufficient to turn water from a fire hose into steam before it hits its target, what will be used as a backup? If chemicals are to be used, are they stockpiled and ready to use at a moment's notice?

We live on active fault lines, the San Andreas and the Hayward. Major quakes on either could sever gas lines and ignite a string of fires in several communities. In such a disaster, could Bay Area emergency crews respond with any reasonable expectation that widespread destruction could be averted?



On Your Home

BRIAN GARDNER

While a difficult question to answer, one thing is certain: advanced planning is critical if we hope to minimize loss of property and life in such a scenario.

In the wake of the 1906 San Francisco earthquake, it was the fires that caused the most damage, not the movement of the earth. Are we taking the necessary steps to prepare ourselves for future occurrences?

Please write to me with your opinions on the subject. We'll run your comments in a future column.

Brian Gardner is marketing director for Montclair Construction and Maintenance Co. His articles are syndicated through Copley News Service. Send letters to him at Hills Newspaper, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland 94619.



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1250 NORVELL, EL CERRITO.....\$234,000
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Neat as a pin. 3BR, 2 1/2 BA, very light. Ed Lindorfer, 531-8401

2905 BURDECK, JOAQUIN MILLER.....\$335,000
Montclair school, great location, 3+BR, 3BA, formal dining. Helen Buty, 658-6499

3700 BALFOUR AVE., CROCKER HIGHLANDS.....\$298,000
REDUCED! Tired lady awaits facelift — 3BR, yard, charm, location & expansion potential! Dell M. Orr, 339-8559

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CHARM EXUDES IN this 3BR traditional home in private setting with nice yard. Carol Cohen, 531-4218

4351 WHITTLE AVE., HILL AREA.....\$255,000
BIG PRICE REDUCTION! Fantastic fixer! Hillside hideaway with Bay view. 3BR, 2BA. Harriet Schoen, 531-2437

BY APPOINTMENT

PIEDMONT - French Chateau on over an acre of park like setting. 6BR, 2 separate maids quarters. Jeanette Roach, 547-1760.....\$4,500,000

PIEDMONT - The best of European craftsmanship - Sweeping views, magnificent architecture, 6+BR & pool. Jeanette Roach, 547-1760.....\$2,995,000

PIEDMONT - Gracious traditional home in central Piedmont. Large rooms lovely detail. Excellent family floor plan with 5BR, family rm. & rumpus. Move-in condition. Jeanette Roach, 547-1760.....\$1,250,000

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SKYLINE - Your own country club! Fabulous swimming pool, almost an acre, zoned for horses, room for tennis court. All level home with 4BR, 3BA, 2 family rooms, formal dining room. A wonderful value! Helen Buty, 658-6499.....\$695,000

THE VIEW GOES ON & ON - S.F., Golden Gate & Mt. Tam. All unobstructed S.F. and traditional styled 4BR, 3BA. Helen Nicholas, 531-7134.....\$569,000

SELLER IS MOTIVATED - 2yo custom contemp. Pano view. 3BR, 3 1/2 BA + office. Many custom features. Martha Shin, 531-8643.....\$519,000

PIEDMONT - Pleasing Prairie-style home. Move right in! Huge rooms, 3+BR, great schools, good play areas tool Lyn Murray, 339-6666.....\$445,000

CRAFTSMAN! PIEDMONT AVE., AREA - Beautiful 4+BR. Loads of light & woodwork. Level garden/play area & 2-car garage. Must see! Lyn Murray, 339-6666.....\$363,000

MONTCLAIR - Quality 3BR, 2 1/2 BA. Less than 2 yrs old. Lyn Murray, 339-6666.....\$355,000

A STARWAY TO THE "STARS" - Well worth the climb! Six yr old contemporary - secluded woods setting. 4BR, 2 1/2 BA, formal dining, family room, Montclair schools. Helen Buty, 658-6499.....\$ ONLY \$325,000

UPPER OAKMERE - Charming Spanish Med. Seller is very motivated! 2BR, 2BA. Martha Shin, 531-8643.....\$319,000

REDWOOD HEIGHTS - Very spacious 3BR, 2BA, in prime area. Rec. rm., great family room & kitchen. Private yard. Carol Cohen, 531-4218.....\$295,000

TREND JEWEL WITH EVERYTHING TO WORK WITH - Levelish lot. Gorgeous bay view. 3BR, 3BA, den & rumpus. Harriet Schoen, 531-2437.....\$289,000

SKYLINE AREA - SUPERB LOCATION! - Under market. Hill area family home. 2BR, 2BA, fam rm. Carol Cohen, 531-4218.....\$285,000

UPPER OAKMERE - Location! 2BR, 1BA. Bright, spacious rooms await your personal touches. Judy Maher, 531-6121.....\$269,000

DELIGHTFUL - Sunny cottage in an arboreal setting. Master suite with French doors & wood stove. Formal dining room + breakfast nook with bay windows. Ideal for privacy - loving gardeners! Just listed! Helen Nicholas, 531-7134.....\$239,000

MAXWELL PARK - You'll love it! Bright, well cared for bungalow on corner lot, fenced yard. 2BR, 1BA, large kitchen, Judy Maher, 531-6121.....\$162,000

CONDOMINIUMS

THE ULTIMATE FOR CONDO LIVING - Spacious rooms. Arched ceiling, living/dining room. Walls of glass. Expansive decks. Common area pool & sauna. Harriet Schoen, 531-2437.....\$215,000

VIEW - VIEW - VIEW - Wall of glass to huge balcony & view. Oversized 2/2. Secure elegance near BART. D.C. Hodges, 531-7667.....\$185,000

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JUST LISTED - Upper Adams Pt. Approx. 1,200 s.f. 2/2. Light, airy, immaculate. Hardwood floors. D.C. Hodges, 531-7667.....\$129,500

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PIEDMONT AVE., AREA - We have a number of excellent units for the discriminating buyer in prime locations & bldgs. Contact: Carol Cohen, 531-4218.....\$109,900

COZY & COZY - A junior one studio condo in a beautiful, well managed, quality living. Joan E. Hause, 339-6160 x239.....\$82,500

OAKLAND LOTS

BEAUTIFUL MONTCLAIR LOT - Gentle down slope with Bay view on cul-de-sac. Joan E. Hause, 339-6160 x239.....\$175,000

SUPERB BUILDING SITE! - Expansive, nearly level, woodsy setting. Harriet Schoen, 531-2437.....\$160,000

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Rebuilding Permits

Property owners at the following burn area sites have applied for administrative building bulk reviews, zoning permits and variances. The public may review and comment on these plans at the Community Restoration Development Center, 5354 Claremont Ave. Call 238-6000 for additional information.

Now under consideration are:

- 4951 Proctor Ave.: Minor conditional use permit to construct a single-family residence with a retaining wall 20 feet in length, 3 feet to 10 feet in height (6 feet allowed).
- 100 Alpine Ter.: Bulk review to construct a 3,241-square-foot single-family residence, and minor conditional use permit to construct a wall along the driveway of 2 feet to 8 feet in height.
- 261 Sheridan Rd.: Minor variance to construct a single-family residence on an uphill lot with a height of 20 feet within 20 feet of the front property line (24 feet required).

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Feb. 25.

- 5009 and 5015 Proctor Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 4,648-square-foot single-family residence.

A decision on this request will be made by CRDC staff after Feb. 23.

- 6160 Acacia Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 5,617-square-foot single-family residence, and administrative review to construct a retaining wall 8 feet tall at points along the east side of the property line.

- 6140 Buena Vista Ave.: Minor conditional use permit to build a fence with a maximum height of 9 feet (8 feet permitted).

- 11 Neva Court: Bulk review to construct a 4,409-square-foot residence, and variance for a front yard setback of 16 feet (20 feet required).

- 5912 Buena Vista Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 4,108-square-foot residence.

- 56 Sheridan Rd.: Bulk review to construct a 3,384-square-foot residence.

- 105 Vicente Rd.: Bulk review to construct a 2,970-square-foot

residence and minor conditional use permit to allow a 12 feet long and 14 feet, 7 inches high retaining wall in the side yard, and a 28 foot long and maximum 8 feet, 8 inches high retaining wall in the side yard, and administrative review of retaining walls, to be of masonry construction with metal railings: 111 foot long wall, minimum height 0 feet, maximum height 10 feet, 6 inches, in the rear yard parallel to the creek; 12 foot long wall, minimum height 13 feet, maximum height 14 feet, 7 inches, in the side yard; 28 foot long wall, minimum height 5 feet, 8 inches, maximum height 8 feet 8 inches, in the side yard.

- 5900 Pinewood Rd.: Bulk review to construct a 3,235-square-foot residence, and minor variance to permit a maximum building height of 37.5 feet (30 feet allowed).

- 165 Taurus Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 3,468-square-foot residence.

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Feb. 25.

- 5308 Golden Gate Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 3,451-square-foot single-family residence, and retaining wall review for an 8 foot wall.

- 6250 Acacia Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 3,118-square-foot single-family residence, and minor variance to have a 2 foot front yard (5 foot minimum), a 15 foot rear yard (20 foot minimum), an 8 foot retaining wall in the front yard (6 foot allowed) and a building height of 35 feet in the front (24 feet allowed).

- 6051 Fairlane Dr.: Bulk review to construct a 3,197-square-foot single-family residence, and minor conditional use permit to construct a 700-square-foot secondary unit.

- 11050 Broadway Terrace: Minor variance to construct a single-family residence with a 10 foot rear yard setback (20 foot minimum) and a 6 foot rear yard setback at the veranda (14 foot minimum).

- 5940 Monza Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 3,084-square-foot single-family residence.

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Jan. 25.

from the rear property line (20 foot minimum) and 17 feet from the front property line (20 foot minimum).

- 5 Dorothy Place: Minor conditional use permit to replace a second unit which existed prior to the fire.

- 11 Drury Lane (Lot 2): Bulk review to construct a 2,874-square-foot single family residence.

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Feb. 5.

- 28 Contra Costa Place: Minor variance to construct a single-family residence with a rear yard setback of 23 feet, 8 inches (37 feet, 8 inches minimum).

- 5940 Monza Ave.: Bulk review to construct a 3,084-square-foot single-family residence.

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Jan. 25.

- 10083 Broadway Terrace: Bulk review to construct a 3,329-square-foot single-family residence and a minor conditional use permit to construct to within 20 feet of the rear property line (40 feet minimum).

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Feb. 16.

• 269 Mandalay Rd.: Bulk review to construct a 3,110-square-foot single-family residence, and minor variance to construct the residence 10 feet

- 6055 Fairlane Dr.: Conditional use permit for an outdoor kitchen for a close relative.

- 854 Leo Way: Minor variance for a 15-foot front yard on a single-family residence (20 feet minimum).

Decisions on these requests will be made by CRDC staff after Feb. 15.

- Caldecott Lane permit for residences condominium tentative tract map.

- 6155 Ocean View: Minor variance to construct a single-family residence with a 10 foot rear yard setback (20 feet minimum).

- 188 Gravatt Dr.: Bulk review to construct a single-family residence consisting of 4,655 square feet. Minor variance to a garage 2 feet from the property line with an overhead required.

- 6945 Bristol Way: Minor variance to enclose an existing pad to create a garage site the front and side property line foot setback required.

- 10015 Broadway Terrace: Bulk review to construct a single-family residence consisting of 2,505 total square feet.



Your Weekend Guide to Open Home Listings



OAKLAND Open Saturday 2-4:30 pm

4500 Clarewood Dr.	Townhouse	3bd/2ba	\$279,000
The GRUBB Co., Josephine O'Shaughnessy	339-0400		
5335 Broadway Ter.	Condo	2bd/2ba	\$205,000
The GRUBB Co., Elizabeth Dickson	339-0400		
3760 39th Ave.	Laurel new const.	2bd/2½ba	\$175,000+
Wells & Bennett, Susie Lipps	482-8602		
1014 McKinley	China Hill	3bd/1ba	\$169,000
Art Realty, Arthur Weil	465-4805		

OAKLAND Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

40 Lane Ct.	Views, Level	4bd/4½ba	\$795,000
Grubb & Ellis, Pat Cheonis	943-5126		
79 Robbie Rd.	Clairemont	4bd/3ba	\$775,000
Pacific Union, Lindsey Murray/Claudia Ellinghaus	339-6460		
5101 Masonic	Rockridge	4bd/3ba Pool	\$765,000
Better Homes, Jeanette Roach	547-1760		
1295 Sunnysills	Crocker Highlands	4bd/3ba Style	\$679,000
Coldwell Banker, Evelyn Walker	339-1174		
7535 Claremont Ave.	Clairemont, 1 acre	5+bd/3ba Private!	\$650,000
J. T. Ward, Ellen Soriano	845-6021 Ext.224	OPEN 2-4	
5575 Fernhoff Rd.	Montclair	3bd/2ba	\$569,000
The GRUBB Co., Donald Woolhouse	339-0400		
35 Weybridge Ct.	Ridgemont	4bd/3ba	\$569,000
The GRUBB Co., Elizabeth Dickson	339-0400		
13506 Campus Drive	Ridgemont	4bd/2+ba	\$559,000
Pacific Union, Robyn Mohr	339-6460		
35 Marr Ave.	Montclair	4bd/3ba	\$549,000
Pacific Union, Suzanne Linford	339-6460		
1225 Blythen	Hillcrest	4bd/3ba Privacy	\$540,000
Mason-McDuffie, G. Howard	339-9290		
1375 Sunnysills	Traditional	4+bd/2ba Patio	\$525,000
Coldwell Banker, Kathy Cooper	339-1174		
18 Treasure Hill	Hiller Highlands	New 3bd Bay View	\$500,000
Coldwell Banker, Norm Robinow	339-1174		
5750 Chelton Dr.	Piedmont Pines	3bd/3½ba	\$499,000
The GRUBB Co., Susan Veit	339-0400		
1601 Mountain Bl.	Montclair	3bd/2ba	\$498,500
The GRUBB Co., Elizabeth Dickson	339-0400		
859 Calmar	Crocker Highlands	4+bd/3½ba Dbl. Lot	\$489,000
Better Homes, Jeanette Roach	547-1760		
6207 Ridgemont	Ridgemont Exec.	4bd/3ba Spacious	\$489,000
Mason-McDuffie, E. Richardson	339-8888		
6110 Ridgemont Dr.	Ridgemont	4bd/3b Just Listed	\$489,000
Coldwell Banker, Sherry Benninger	339-1174		
6193 Ridgemont Dr.	Ridgemont	4bd/3b Great Value!	\$485,000
Wells & Bennett, Chris Christensen	530-8412		
1987 Drake Dr.	Montclair	3bd/2½ba Pano View	\$479,000
Better Homes, Carolyn Hartley	339-4000		
1142 Sunnysills	Crocker Highlands	3bd/2ba 1st Open!	\$469,000
Mason-McDuffie, M. Dresser	339-9290		
5661 Chappell Pl.	Hillcrest 1+acre	4+bd New Listing!	\$459,000
Wells & Bennett, Nell Davis	531-9536		
39 Bowles Place	Crocker Highlands	3bd/2ba	\$459,000
Mason-McDuffie, Tom Canterbury	447-0474		
13762 Campus Dr.	Ridgemont	Elegant, Level Lot	\$459,000
Coldwell Banker, Sherry Benninger	339-1174		
983 Park Lane	Crocker Highlands	4bd/3+ba Charm	\$449,500
Coldwell Banker, Diane Hymer	339-1174		
4068 Lincoln Ave.	Lincoln Heights	4bd/2½ba Tudor	\$449,000
Better Homes, Rod Andrade	339-4000		
134 Sheridan	Rockridge	New 3bd/2½ba	\$449,000
Mason-McDuffie, B. Mele	339-9290		
7180 Thorndale	Montclair	3bd/2+ba 1st Open!	\$439,000
Mason-McDuffie, G. Boomer	339-9290		
5814 LaSalle	Montclair	w/Possible In-Law	\$419,000
Wells & Bennett, Donna Ransiere	547-6961		
815 Trestle Glen	Trestle Glen	4+bd/3ba	\$399,888
The GRUBB Co., Judy Cain	339-0400		
1817 Carter	Upper Oakmore	4bd + Rumpus	\$395,000
Better Homes, Carol Cohen	531-4218		
4910 Stoneridge Ct.	Ridgemont	3bd/2½ba	\$389,000
Jack Litzelselner	633-0468		
6025 Burns Ct.	Montclair	3bd/2ba	\$379,000
The GRUBB Co., Anian Pettit Tunney	339-0400		
11205 Golf Links Rd.	Sequoynah Hts.	4bd/2½ba Private	\$374,500
Coldwell Banker, Nancy Dickey	339-1174		
11 Ascot Place	Piedmont Pines	3+bd/2½ba Ranch	\$362,000
Coldwell Banker, Diane Hymer	339-1174		
6645 Gunn Drive	Montclair	3bd/2½ba Light!	\$349,900
Better Homes, Ed Lindorfer	531-8401		
5891 Morpeth St.	Upper Rockridge	3bd/2ba	\$349,000
Pacific Union, Chuck Corwin	339-6460		
4973 Harbord	Upper Rockridge	6bd/2ba	\$349,000
Pacific Union, Howard Rodkin	339-6460		
38 Kingwood Rd.	Rockridge	3bd/2+ba	\$344,500
The GRUBB Co., Angela Wei Grubb	339-0400		
6416 Heather Ridge Way	Montclair	Split level	\$339,000
Wells & Bennett, Vicki Faulk	533-2950		
5070 Kearney Ave.	Traditional	4bd/2b 2 Story	\$339,000
Coldwell Banker, Adriana Giacomelli	339-1174		
5352 Hilltop Cres.	Rockridge	3+bd/3ba	\$335,000
Mason-McDuffie, N. Chew	339-8787		

2995 Burdeck	Joaquin Miller	3+bd/3ba Location!	\$335,000
Better Homes, Helen Buty	658-6499		
6111 Broadway Terr.	Rockridge	3+bd/1+ba	\$329,000
Pacific Union, Kathy Flynn	339-6460		
3874 Fairway Ave.	Sequoynah Hills	3+bd/3½ 1/4+acre	\$325,000
Better Homes, Gary Sponsel	866-9472 OPEN 1-4		
8097 Greenridge	Oak Knoll	Duplex	\$315,000
Pacific Union, Charlene Claybaugh	339-6460		
10362 Greenview Dr.	Chabot Highlands	3bd on ½ acre	\$315,000
Coldwell Banker, Kevin McMullen	339-1174		
7250 Woodrow Dr.	The GRUBB Co., Josephine O'Shaughnessy	3bd/3ba	\$310,000
4241 Edge Drive	Oakmore	3 bedroom	\$309,000
The GRUBB Co., Linda E. McClain	339-0400		
6921 Saroni Dr.	Montclair	3bd/2ba	\$307,000
Pacific Union, Roselle Woods	339-6460		
5638 Thornhill Dr.	Montclair	4bd/3ba	\$299,000
Pacific Union, Michelle Miller	339-6460		
4029 Oakmore Road	Oakmore	3bd/1½ba	\$299,000
The GRUBB Co., Karen Starr	339-0400		
289 Crestmont Dr.	Crestmont	3bd/2½ Family Rm	\$299,000
Help-U-Sell	482-8100		
3700 Balfour	Crocker Highlands	3bd Reduced!	\$298,000
Better Homes, Dell M. Orr	339-8559		
4230 St. Andrews	Sequoynah	2+bd/1ba Spanish	\$295,000
Better Homes, Jennie Lippincott	339-4000		
43 Ramona Ave.	The GRUBB Co., Marilyn Watson	3bd/2ba	\$289,000
4049 1st Street	Redwood City	3+bd/2ba	\$288,000
The GRUBB Co., Karen Starr	339-0400		
127 Mandalay	Upper Rockridge	2bd/1ba Move-In!	\$288,000
Mason-McDuffie, V. Landes	339-9290		
4109 Coolidge	Lincoln Heights	3+bd/2½ Views	\$285,000
Mason-McDuffie, A. Ng	339-9290		
26 Abbott Drive	Montclair Cutie	2+bd/1½b Privacy	\$280,000
Coldwell Banker, Terry Kulka	339-1174		
4101 Lyman	Oakmore	3+bd/2b Location!	\$279,000
Mason-McDuffie, H. converse	339-8888		
5208 Golden Gate	Upper Rockridge	2bd Just Listed!	\$275,000
Coldwell Banker, Jo-Anne Bolwerk	339-1174		
5800 Pinewood	Montclair	3bd/2ba All Level	\$274,000
Mason-McDuffie, G. Milliron	339-9290		
8016 Shepherd Canyon	Woodsy Montclair	3bd/2ba w/AuPair	\$269,500
Mason-McDuffie	339-8210		
6269 Westover	Montclair Chalet	3bd/2ba Woodsy	\$269,500
Wells & Bennett, Wendy Callaghan	339-9197		
6901 Balsam Way	Montclair	1bd/1ba	\$265,000
Mason-McDuffie, J. Alford	339-8888		
4493 Montgomery	Townhouse	2bd/2½ Bay View	\$265,000
Mason-McDuffie, P			